

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, : 18-CR-684(ENV)

-against-

: United States Courthouse  
: Brooklyn, New York

ELGIN BRACK,

: Monday, March 2, 2019  
: 9:30 a.m.

Defendant.

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TRANSCRIPT OF CRIMINAL CAUSE FOR JURY SELECTION  
BEFORE THE MAGISTRATE JUDGE JAMES ORENSTEIN  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

A P P E A R A N C E S:

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Jury Selection

2

1 (In open court.)

2 THE COURT: Good morning, everybody. Have a seat,  
3 please.

4 THE COURTROOM DEPUTY: Criminal cause for jury  
5 selection on Docket No. 18-CR-684, United States of America  
6 versus Elgin Brack.

7 Counsel, please state your name for the record.

8 MR. SELDEN: Good morning, Your Honor. On behalf of  
9 the United States, Assistant United States Attorney Phil  
10 Selden.

11 THE COURT: Good morning.

12 MR. SELDEN: I am joined at Government counsel table  
13 by Assistant United States Attorneys Jonathan Siegel, Jonathan  
14 Lax, Paralegal Specialist Elicia Bates, and Special Agent  
15 Steven Saint-Hilaire.

16 THE COURT: Good morning. Do I have everybody's  
17 name at the table on our list?

18 MR. SELDEN: Yes, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: For the defendant.

20 MR. FARRELL: Yes, Your Honor. My name is Gary  
21 Farrell. I will be joined by Joel Stein who was present  
22 earlier this morning and he's just in the restroom.

23 And our client Elgin Brack is before the court.

24 THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Brack.

25 THE DEFENDANT: Good morning, sir.

Jury Selection

3

1 MR. FARRELL: Your Honor, I would like to  
2 respectfully add one name who may be joining us for parts of  
3 the trial and his name is John Bennett. He's a third-year law  
4 student. As his schedule with school permits, he will be  
5 joining us at counsel table.

6 THE COURT: What is his name?

7 MR. FARRELL: John Bennett. B-E-N-N-E-T-T.

8 THE COURT: Is there any particular reason I didn't  
9 get the name in advance?

10 MR. FARRELL: We weren't sure that he would be  
11 participate at all.

12 THE COURT: In the future, err on the side of  
13 inclusion.

14 MR. FARRELL: Sure.

15 THE COURT: If you tell me in advance and he doesn't  
16 show up, no problem.

17 MR. FARRELL: I understand.

18 THE COURT: Mr. Stein.

19 MR. STEIN: Good morning, Judge.

20 THE COURT: I'm told that contrary to what we heard  
21 earlier, instead of a two-week trial, we are anticipating a  
22 three-week trial; is that right?

23 MR. SELDEN: That is correct.

24 THE COURT: Okay, I hope we have enough jurors. Mr.  
25 Selden, if you are noticing some frustration that is because

## Jury Selection

4

1 this is not the first time I am having surprises in a jury  
2 selection with you. I hope it won't be a pattern. I hope we  
3 have enough jurors to get through the day. Let's see.

4 Have you seen the list of names? Any there other  
5 additions besides Mr. Bennett?

6 MR. SELDEN: Not on behalf of the Government. Thank  
7 you, Your Honor.

8 MR. STEIN: No, Judge.

9 THE COURT: You have seen my proposed description of  
10 the case. Any issues with that?

11 MR. SELDEN: Not on behalf of the Government. Thank  
12 you, Your Honor.

13 MR. FARRELL: None, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: All right. One thing I noticed after I  
15 had written it, I want to make sure nobody has an objection,  
16 and we can correct it if need be, in summarizing the charges,  
17 I grouped three firearm charges together describing them as  
18 possessing and brandishing a firearm during a crime of  
19 violence. I realized that later that Count Three includes  
20 discharge as an element. I don't think it makes a whole lot  
21 of difference in terms of describing the charges for the jury  
22 so that they can figure out if they're going to be fair, but  
23 if somebody wants me to clarify that further, I will.

24 MR. STEIN: Judge, I would actually prefer that be  
25 in there, because who knows what previous experience jurors

Jury Selection

5

1 have had.

2 THE COURT: Okay. I will make that two counts of  
3 possessing and brandishing, and one count of possessing,  
4 brandishing and discharging.

5 MR. SELDEN: I believe it is three counts of  
6 possession and brandishing a firearm, Your Honor, and one  
7 count of possession, brandishing, and discharging a firearm.

8 THE COURT: Let me take a look at the indictment to  
9 make sure that I get it right.

10 MR. SELDEN: Sure, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: The charge with discharging is Count  
12 Three. Count Five is possessing and brandishing. Count Seven  
13 is possessing -- so, how do I have this wrong?

14 Three counts of possessing and brandishing, one  
15 count of possessing and brandishing and discharge, one count  
16 of conspiracy, one count of attempted, and three substantive  
17 counts, right?

18 MR. SIEGEL: That's correct, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Yes. I left one out.

20 MR. SELDEN: Your Honor?

21 THE COURT: Yes.

22 MR. SELDEN: Just for clarity, with regards to the  
23 substantive counts, there is one attempt of Hobbs Act robbery  
24 and three additional substantive counts of Hobbs Act robbery.

25 THE COURT: Right. So one count of conspiracy, one

Jury Selection

6

1 of attempted, three of robbery, three of possessing and  
2 brandishing and one of possessing, brandishing and discharge?

3 MR. SELDEN: Yes, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: We are all good?

5 MR. SELDEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Anything else before we bring the jurors  
7 up?

8 BOTTOM RIGHT judge, I have one sort of a personal  
9 question.

10 THE COURT: Yes.

11 MR. STEIN: At some point during the proceedings are  
12 we going to take a morning break?

13 THE COURT: You know, I am going to keep an eye on  
14 the room, but probably a midmorning break. My hope and my  
15 expectation is to get them seated before lunch time. We will  
16 take it as it comes. We will certainly take a midmorning  
17 break as needed.

18 MR. STEIN: Okay.

19 THE COURT: If we're reaching a point where we need  
20 a break, just sort of give me the hi sign.

21 All right. Oh, I'm sorry. Lastly, I am going to  
22 fill the box. The front row will be our named panel and on  
23 the left side of the courtroom facing it, I will put our  
24 alternate panel. So I will qualify everybody at once. Okay.  
25 All right.

## Jury Selection

7

1 (Prospective jurors enter courtroom.)

2 THE COURT: Good morning, folks. Have a seat  
3 anywhere in the gallery anywhere you'd like. Folks, the  
4 jurors will be entering for a while, so please feel free to  
5 have a seat.

6 You can also use the front row of the gallery, if  
7 you'd like. To give you fair warning, it is going to get  
8 pretty crowded, so you are going to need to squeeze into those  
9 seats. Anywhere is fine. Take seats anywhere in the gallery.  
10 Do squeeze to use all of the seats. It will be crowded when  
11 we start and then we will relieve the crowding.

12 Come in, folks. Take seats in the gallery,  
13 including the front row.

14 We have a lot of people coming in, so please squeeze  
15 in seats to use as many as possible. Come in, folks. Please  
16 find seats in the gallery, including the front row. You are  
17 free to use the front row. Do squeeze in as much as possible  
18 to use as many as seats as we can.

19 Come in to make room for other people who are coming  
20 in, please. I promise you it will relieve the crowd soon.  
21 There are some empty seats in the front row. Please come and  
22 take them. For example, in the front row, do you think you  
23 can squeeze down a little bit to get a seat for one more  
24 person. If you haven't found a seat, we will get one for you  
25 in just a couple of minutes.

Jury Selection

8

1 Do we have everybody?

2 THE COURTROOM DEPUTY: Yes.

3 THE COURT: Okay, let's get started.

4 Good morning, everyone. Welcome to the Eastern  
5 District of New York. My name is Magistrate Judge Orenstein.  
6 We are here today to select a jury in the trial of the United  
7 States against Elgin Brack. The trial will begin tomorrow  
8 morning in this courtroom before Judge Eric Vitaliano.

9 The first thing we need to do to get started is to  
10 swear all of you in as prospective jurors. So, if you can,  
11 please, rise and raise your right hand to be sworn in.

12 (Prospective jurors sworn.)

13 THE COURT: Have a seat, please. Thank you.

14 So, our purpose in selecting a jury today is to find  
15 fair and impartial jurors who can tried this case. And to do  
16 that, I'm going to ask you some questions about your  
17 background. I apologize in advance for asking some questions  
18 which will be pretty personal. I have to do that to make sure  
19 that we find jurors who are completely fair and impartial. My  
20 questions and your answers allow me to determine if any of you  
21 should be excused for cause. The questioning also allows the  
22 parties to exercise their judgment with respect to what we  
23 call peremptory challenges. And that's a challenge for which  
24 no reason needs to be provided and each side has been given a  
25 certain number of those that they are free to exercise.



## Jury Selection

9

1           Now, if at any point you would feel uncomfortable  
2 answering a question in front of a whole room of people,  
3 that's fine. Let me know that and I will ask you to come up  
4 here. It is called the sidebar area and we'll discuss  
5 whatever it is with me, the court reporter, and the lawyers  
6 present, so that way you can do it in a slightly more private  
7 setting.

8           If I decide for any reason that you shouldn't sit as  
9 a juror in this case, please understand that it doesn't  
10 reflect badly on you in any way. You know, our system  
11 requires jurors who not only are completely fair but who lack  
12 even the appearance of favoring one side or another, and that  
13 kind of appearance can arise from a juror's relationship to  
14 the case, the parties, or the subject matter. So, if for any  
15 reason I decide you shouldn't serve as a juror in this case,  
16 don't worry, we will try to find a case for you. I will ask  
17 you to go back downstairs to the jury assembly room where you  
18 just came from, and we will try our best to find a case that  
19 is right for you and your background.

20           The next step, as we will relieve the crowding, we  
21 are going to fill seats with the first group we are going to  
22 talk to. I will start with the jury box and we are also going  
23 to end up using the front rows. I will get to that in a  
24 moment.

25           So, starting in the seat closest to me in the front

## Jury Selection

10

1 row, and if I get your name wrong or mispronounce, please  
2 correct me, because I want to get it right if I can.

3 Can I have Adam Diaz in the seat closest to me in  
4 the front row. Just come on up.

5 And then in the second seat in the front row, Jill  
6 Rudolph.

7 The third seat in the front row, Lisa Harriott.

8 Four seat in the front row, Salvatore Eterno.

9 And in the fifth seat in the front row, Shing Wang.

10 And in the sixth farthest from me in the front row,  
11 Keith Chan.

12 Starting with the seat closest to me in the jury  
13 box, can we have Melody Camacho.

14 And in the second seat, Michael Patrick.

15 And in the third seat in the front row, Mary  
16 Dichiaro.

17 In the fourth seat in the second row, Dennis Traina.

18 And in the fifth seat in the second row, James  
19 Bosco.

20 And in the seat farthest from me in the second row,  
21 Elbania Flete Duran.

22 Starting with the seat closest to me in the back  
23 row, Nelson Hernandez.

24 In the second seat in the back row, Sonia  
25 Fletcher-Lewis.

## Jury Selection

11

1 Third seat in the back row, Shoshana Griesner.

2 Four seat in the back row, Erica Taylor.

3 And in the fifth seat in the back row, Bernadette  
4 Williams.

5 And in the seat farthest from me in the back row,  
6 Halle Marks. All right. Musical chairs.

7 If you are sitting in the front row of the gallery  
8 on either side, if you could empty those seats and we will  
9 reseal you in a moment. I am going to seat people in our  
10 first group there.

11 Thank you. So starting in the seat closest to the  
12 wall on the left side of the courtroom, Santina Marando.

13 And next to Ms. Marando, Raymond Ng.

14 And next to Mr. Ng, Abdalla Westbrook.

15 Folks, if you're sitting on that side, please make  
16 sure you are not blocked from my view by that podium. We will  
17 have -- we are only putting five people in that row for now.

18 Next, Steven Sagot.

19 And then closest to the aisle in that row on the  
20 right side of the courtroom, Kanta Haque.

21 And then starting closest to the aisle on the left  
22 side of the courtroom, Denise McNamara.

23 Next to Ms. McNamara, Wesley Masch.

24 How do you pronounce it, sir?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Masch.

## Jury Selection

12

1 THE COURT: Next to Mr. Masch, Ms. Jessica Ray.

2 Next to Ms. Ray, Ms. Seketha Woods.

3 And closest to the wall, Frank Sabine.

4 All right, and our last bit of musical chairs, if  
5 the people on the left side of the courtroom in the second row  
6 could give us that row, we're going to put one more group in  
7 there and then we'll let everybody find a seat.

8 Counsel, just so you know, I am going to go in  
9 backwards order just so that we can start with the person  
10 closest to the wall.

11 Closest to the wall on the left side of the  
12 courtroom in the second row, Christian Ramirez.

13 And then next to Mr. Ramirez, Constanza Fuentes.

14 Next to Ms. Fuentes, Porsche Lee.

15 Next to Mr. Lee, Edith Parker.

16 And then Marie Whelan.

17 And then Francis brown.

18 I am going to ask you to squeeze in a little, if  
19 you've got room.

20 And then in the first chair closest to the wall is  
21 Kathryn Gupta.

22 And finally, Alvaro LLanes.

23 And if I haven't called your name, take a seat in  
24 the gallery. And I should also say, if I haven't called your  
25 name, please stay in the room and pay attention. The group of

## Jury Selection

13

1 folks that I've called by name is the first group that I will  
2 interview. It will make the day go faster for all of us if,  
3 as we go on, you're all paying attention to the questions so  
4 if I call you up to replacing somebody that I have excused,  
5 just say oh, you asked this question before and I have a yes  
6 answer to it.

7 I see your hand in the back. If I haven't called  
8 your name, please wait until I call you. If there is a reason  
9 you think you shouldn't be here, please wait until I call you  
10 to bring it up. Okay.

11 All right. Next, let me introduce the participants  
12 in our case, and starting at the table closest to the wall on  
13 the left side of the courtroom, the defendant, Elgin Brack, is  
14 represented by Joel Stein and Gary Farrell.

15 Folks, would you call rise and introduce yourselves  
16 to the panel.

17 MR. STEIN: Good morning.

18 MR. FARRELL: Good morning, Gary Farrell.

19 THE COURT: Okay. This is a criminal prosecution  
20 and all prosecutions in this judicial strict are brought on  
21 behalf of the Government of the United States.

22 I'm sorry, before I turn to the prosecution table, I  
23 have left out, you have John Bennett and he is not with us,  
24 and he maybe joining us later, am I right?

25 MR. FARRELL: Yes.

## Jury Selection

14

1 THE COURT: He is a law school student intern?

2 MR. FARRELL: Yes, that's correct.

3 THE COURT: I will be asking you, folks, even though  
4 I don't have John Bennett listed on that piece of paper you  
5 got, but does anybody think they know a law student named John  
6 Bennett? All right.

7 Now let me turn to the prosecution table. As I was  
8 saying, all criminal cases in this district are brought on  
9 behalf of the United States Government by the United States  
10 Attorney for the Eastern District of New York whose name is  
11 Richard Donahue. And in this case, the Government will be  
12 represented by three of Mr. Donahue's assistants, Assistant  
13 United States Attorneys Phil Selden, Jonathan Siegel, and  
14 Jonathan Lax. And with them at counsel table is Special  
15 Agent Steven Saint-Hilaire and Paralegal Specialist Elicia  
16 Bates.

17 MR. SELDEN: Good morning.

18 MR. SIEGEL: Good morning.

19 MR. LAX: Good morning.

20 THE COURT: All right. Have a seat, folks.

21 Do any of our jurors -- and, again, when I am asking  
22 questions now, it's to the people I have called your name, do  
23 any of our prospective jurors think that they know anybody at  
24 either of these tables? No.

25 Do any of you think that either yourself or a family

## Jury Selection

15

1 member or a close friend have been represented by any of the  
2 attorneys or has any other kind of association with any of  
3 these folks? All right.

4 Now, let's talk about the schedule. The trial in  
5 this case is expected to last up to three weeks, meaning from  
6 the day it starts, which is tomorrow, through the latest, we  
7 think, is March 20th. The schedule will be that it starts  
8 each day around 9:30, probably, goes up to five o'clock with  
9 short breaks in the middle of the morning and the middle of  
10 the afternoon and, of course, a longer lunch break in the  
11 middle of the day.

12 If you are selected for service on this jury, we  
13 will need to make sure that you can arrive at the courthouse  
14 no later than 9:15 to make sure that we can start the trial on  
15 time.

16 So, I am going to ask you in a moment, not just yet,  
17 if that schedule presents a hardship for you. But before I do  
18 that, before you start raising your hands, I want to make sure  
19 that everybody understands on behalf of myself, all of the  
20 participants in the trial, we all know this is not where you'd  
21 like to be and it's probably not where you want to be for the  
22 next three weeks.

23 Jury service is a real inconvenience. It takes you  
24 away from important matters in your daily lives and it can be  
25 hard to manage and everybody here is sympathetic to that.

## Jury Selection

16

1           On the other hand, we have a system that relies on  
2 jurors coming from their lives to participate in our system to  
3 make sure that everybody gets a fair trial and we can't do  
4 that. We can't give people a fair trial if ordinary citizens  
5 don't do their part.

6           So, if this is truly a hardship for you, let me know  
7 that and if I agree, I am going to excuse you and maybe we  
8 will find a shorter trial for you.

9           If it's going to be an inconvenience, but you are  
10 going to find a way to manage it, I am going to ask you to do  
11 that, not because I don't sympathize and not because these  
12 folks don't sympathize, but it's the only way that we can  
13 to make sure that everybody gets a fair trial.

14           So, with that understanding, my apology if I end up  
15 say that I am not excusing you. If you to ask to be excused  
16 please raise your hand if you think being on this jury in the  
17 next three weeks is a hardship for you. If I haven't called  
18 your name in the back, don't raise your hand. I am going to  
19 go row by row.

20           Let me start with the front row of the jury box, Mr.  
21 Khan.

22           THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have made travel  
23 arrangements March 15th.

24           THE COURT: March 15th?

25           THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.



Jury Selection

17

1 THE COURT: Prepaid?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Prepaid.

3 THE COURT: I am going to excuse you.

4 If I excuse anybody, go down to the jury room on the  
5 second floor. I do see your hands, I will get to you. I'm  
6 going to go row by row.

7 Mr. Wang.

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My wife has surgery on the  
9 19th and I have to pick her up and bring her to the hospital  
10 and bring her back.

11 THE COURT: When do you anticipate needing to be  
12 there on the 19th?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It's at 8 o'clock in the  
14 morning.

15 THE COURT: I hate to do that, to let you go,  
16 because it is entirely possible we won't get quite what far,  
17 but I'm not going to take that chance. I'll send you  
18 downstairs and see if we can get you on a shorter trial.

19 Anybody else in the front row?

20 In the second row?

21 Mr. Traina?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't have a hardship per  
23 se. I'm a sole proprietor of a company. So three weeks would  
24 put me in a difficult position. I manage three employees.

25 THE COURT: Let me ask you what happens if you are

## Jury Selection

18

1 gone for that long? Is there somebody there who can manage  
2 things?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm pretty much the decision  
4 maker.

5 THE COURT: What kind of business is it?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It's a heating and air  
7 conditioning company. Every day is a new day with crews.  
8 Really the -- I have a good manager, but he wouldn't be able  
9 to run the business for three weeks.

10 THE COURT: Do you ever take vacations for a couple  
11 weeks?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Honestly, I have never taken  
13 any more than five days in the last five years, my father was  
14 not business, he is no longer in the business, I'm sort of  
15 doing it on my own.

16 THE COURT: I am going to let you go.

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I do appreciate that.

18 THE COURT: Don't thank me too much. We're going to  
19 find another trial for you.

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I appreciate that. Three  
21 weeks is too long.

22 THE COURT: I understand.

23 I see a hand in the second row. Ms. Flete Duran.

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I'm currently a  
25 full-time student and this is my last year of college. So

Jury Selection

19

1 being here for three weeks is --

2 THE COURT: I understand. I am going to excuse you.  
3 Anybody else in the second row? In the back row, Ms.  
4 Griesner?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm a grandma and I have to  
6 help my daughter to pick up the children from the school bus  
7 at three o'clock. Besides, I got a summons for the county,  
8 Queens County to go at the same time.

9 THE COURT: Well, if you are here, they won't give  
10 you a problem for not showing up in Queens County.

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Three weeks I'm not to be  
12 helpful. She won't be able to do it.

13 THE COURT: Is your daughter the primary caregiver  
14 for your granddaughter? Who takes care of your grandchild,  
15 your daughter or you?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My daughter has to go to  
17 work and I help her with the school bus.

18 THE COURT: Every day?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

20 THE COURT: Is there anybody who can fill in?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

22 THE COURT: If you are sick or away for a trip --

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, one day.

24 THE COURT: What happens if you --

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Then she won't go to work.

## Jury Selection

20

1 THE COURT: Is there anybody else besides your  
2 daughter who fills in?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I'm the only  
4 grandmother.

5 THE COURT: So when can you serve on a jury?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not three weeks.

7 THE COURT: Okay. When can you serve on a jury?  
8 Can you serve on a jury this week?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: For a short time.

10 THE COURT: We will find another trial for you.  
11 Please go downstairs.

12 Is there anybody else in the back row? All right.  
13 On the right side of the courtroom, I see some hands. Mr.  
14 Sagot?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, sir. Three weeks is  
16 just too long. I work two jobs and it's too much income to  
17 lose over the course of three weeks.

18 THE COURT: You don't get paid if you are not there?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Correct.

20 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Line cook as well as  
22 administrative assistant in a therapy clinic.

23 THE COURT: You are an hourly earner?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, sir.

25 THE COURT: I will excuse you. Yes, Ms. Miranda?

## Jury Selection

21

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work for the Department of  
2 Education.

3 THE COURT: I am going to ask you, because I can  
4 barely see you.

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work with the Department  
6 of Education. I'm a cook. We are short. We are very short  
7 staffed. I don't think they can manage without me for three  
8 weeks, I can do something shorter.

9 THE COURT: As you have seen, I have been excusing  
10 people who have a hardship in their own lives. The Department  
11 of Education can find somebody. So I'm going to ask you to  
12 resume your seat. If they give you a hard time, please tell  
13 them you tried and the judge said no.

14 Anybody else on that side of the courtroom?

15 Turning to the front row on the left side. Yes, Ms.  
16 McNamara.

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have two concerns: One is  
18 my employer will only cover up to three days of jury duty  
19 service, beyond that I don't get paid.

20 THE COURT: Yes.

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: And then, secondly, my  
22 father is ill with kidney cancer and goes to dialysis three  
23 days a week. My parents divorced when I was younger.

24 THE COURT: All right. I will excuse you. We will  
25 see if we can find a shorter trial for you.

Jury Selection

22

1 Anybody else on the left side? In the second row, I  
2 see a few hand.

3 Starting with Mr. Llanes.

4 MR. STEIN: I have a prepaid business trip from the  
5 9th to the 11.

6 THE COURT: A business trip?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.

8 THE COURT: Can they send somebody in your stead?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I'm the only person.

10 THE COURT: I will excuse you.

11 And Ms. Gupta.

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a travel scheduled  
13 March 13th.

14 THE COURT: Is it prepaid?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, sir.

16 THE COURT: I will excuse you.

17 Anybody else? Mr. Lee?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm going to be taking my  
19 exam, my medical entrance exam next week.

20 THE COURT: Is that something that can be  
21 rescheduled?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I already rescheduled once.  
23 It's too late for the deadline. If it was any other week or a  
24 shorter trial.

25 THE COURT: All right. I will excuse you.

Jury Selection

23

1 Anybody else that I have missed?

2 Are you Mr. Bennett?

3 MR. FARRELL: Yes, he is.

4 THE COURT: Does anybody think they know Mr. Bennett  
5 here? All right. So we have a number of seats to fill. I  
6 will fill them in the original order that I filled them. Give  
7 me one moment.

8 All right. In the fifth seat in the front row,  
9 Audrey Thomas.

10 In the seat farthest from me in the front row,  
11 Khurshid Bashir.

12 In the fourth seat in the middle row, Linda Honig.

13 In the seat farthest from me in the second row, Paul  
14 Claro.

15 And in the third seat in the back row, Jack Hammer.

16 In the seat second from the aisle on the right side  
17 of the courtroom, forgive me, Jeanmarie Giordano.

18 In the seat closest to the aisle on the left side of  
19 the courtroom, Gary Weil.

20 In the chair closest to the aisle in the second row,  
21 John Zarrella.

22 And in the next chair, Christopher Ng.

23 In the third seat from the wall in that second row,  
24 Elise Bellefond.

25 All right. We have filled all of the seats that we

Jury Selection

24

1 need to fill in, I think.

2 So we have a number of jurors who have just joined  
3 us. Do any of you who have just joined us have a hardship  
4 serving over the next three weeks?

5 Yes, Mr. Zarrella. I'm sorry, you are not Mr.  
6 Zarrella.

7 You are Mr. Weil?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

9 THE COURT: Yes?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm a truck driver.

11 THE COURT: Yes.

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work for a union. I don't  
13 get paid unless I work.

14 THE COURT: And --

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have two kids in college.

16 THE COURT: All right. I am going to excuse you.  
17 Just go downstairs.

18 (Continued on following page.)  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



## Jury Selection

25

1 (Continuing.)

2 THE COURT: Anyone I excuse, go back down to the  
3 jury assembly room on the second floor. We are going to try  
4 to find you another trial.

5 Anyone else that just came?

6 At the back, I am talking to the jurors who have  
7 been called up. If you have an issue and I call you up, I  
8 will listen to you.

9 All right, anybody else who has just joined us or  
10 who joined us earlier and forgot to mention something?

11 Let me say this: I have a number of questions I am  
12 going to ask you today. If we get past it and then you  
13 realize you had not answered, please speak up. What we cannot  
14 have is you get through the jury selection process, you are on  
15 the jury and then you say "Wait, I just remembered there was  
16 something I forgot to raise," because it is so much harder to  
17 fix that problem.

18 So do not be shy. Really, if there is something  
19 that you think of that you did not get to the first time  
20 around, please, please, let me know about it.

21 All right, did I miss anybody who has a scheduling  
22 issue?

23 All right, in the seat closest to the aisle in the  
24 front on the left side of the courtroom can we have Armend  
25 Odzic, please.

Jury Selection

26

1 Mr. Odzic, do you have any problem with the  
2 schedule?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am in 32BJ and I believe  
4 if I'm in this procedure, I don't get paid for the three  
5 weeks.

6 THE COURT: You don't get paid?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

8 THE COURT: All right, I'll excuse you.

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you.

10 (Prospective Juror No. 47 excused.)

11 THE COURT: That same seat, can we have Claire  
12 Hansen?

13 Ms. Hansen, do you have any difficulty with the  
14 schedule?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I have two small  
16 children and they are in spring break and we have tickets to  
17 go see their family in Canada.

18 THE COURT: All right, I will excuse you.

19 (Prospective Juror No. 48 excused.)

20 THE COURT: Yes, Mr. Patrick?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I work for a union as  
22 well. I'm not sure I'd be paid for three weeks.

23 THE COURT: Okay, can you find out during the break  
24 and let me know?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have to go get my phone.

## Jury Selection

27

1 THE COURT: Okay, make a call. If you are not going  
2 to get paid I am not going to keep you, but I would like to  
3 know that before I excuse you.

4 In the seat that's been emptied again, can we have  
5 Courtney Weinstein?

6 I have the spelling of your first name C-O-U-R-N-Y,  
7 is that missing a T?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

9 THE COURT: I thought it might be.

10 And, Ms. Weinstein, do you have any scheduling  
11 issue?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: To your previous issue I do  
13 have a very close friend who is an assistant U.S. Attorney,  
14 and there are a few names on this list from donors of an  
15 organization that I am familiar with where I work.

16 THE COURT: I am going to get to the list.

17 Who is the Assistant U.S. Attorney you know?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Mathew Miller.

19 THE COURT: I don't think he has any involvement in  
20 this case.

21 Am I right, counsel?

22 MR. SELDEN: That is correct, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Would the fact that you know somebody  
24 who works at the same office in any way affect your ability to  
25 be fair?

Jury Selection

28

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It may.

2 THE COURT: It may. How?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Lots of stories that I've  
4 heard. So it's --

5 THE COURT: You have heard stories about this case?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not about this case.

7 THE COURT: We are only asking for jurors to serve  
8 in this case --

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Sure.

10 THE COURT: -- not for other cases they may have  
11 heard about.

12 Would the fact that you have heard stories about  
13 other cases, we have all heard stories about lots of cases,  
14 would that affect your ability to fairly judge this case?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Hard to know for sure.

16 THE COURT: Is it?

17 How do you think it might? Because I take it you  
18 know nothing about this case, right?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

20 THE COURT: How do you think it may affect your  
21 judgment in a case that you know nothing about?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just the system and -- and  
23 how it's worked in the past, but I would certainly try my  
24 best.

25 THE COURT: Okay, do you have any reason to think

Jury Selection

29

1 that you are going to favor one side or another?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Again, hard to know for  
3 sure.

4 THE COURT: Yes. And let me assure everybody that,  
5 I assume, like all human beings, you don't know what you don't  
6 know and that there are uncertainties. You cannot predict  
7 everything.

8 We are looking for people who think that they are  
9 fair and who do not know of a reason why they would not be.  
10 If there is a reason why you think you would not be fair,  
11 please let me know. If you just don't know what you don't  
12 know, we get it. That is not a reason you cannot serve.

13 Is there anything you are aware of that would make  
14 it hard for you to be fair?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I guess I'll do my best.

16 THE COURT: It is important to answer that question,  
17 though.

18 Is there anything that you can think of that would  
19 make it hard for you to be fair?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm not sure. I'll try my  
21 best.

22 THE COURT: Is there anything that you can think of?

23 I know you are not sure, you are going to try your  
24 best, you have said that twice, I get that.

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

## Jury Selection

30

1 THE COURT: Is there anything that you can think of  
2 that would make it hard for you to be fair?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

4 THE COURT: Okay.

5 And to get back to the question I was trying to get  
6 to earlier, is there any scheduling issue?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: There is a Jewish holiday  
8 next week of Purim that may present some complications.

9 THE COURT: How so?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Needing to be partly in  
11 synagogue and observance of the holiday, which may conflict  
12 depending on holiday.

13 THE COURT: When are the services that you are  
14 planning to attend?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: On Tuesday.

16 THE COURT: What time on Tuesday? For example, at  
17 my synagogue they are in the evening to accommodate people  
18 who, like most of us, work.

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Sure. I am not a hundred  
20 percent sure.

21 THE COURT: Okay. If you find out that you have a  
22 conflict, do please let me know. I am sure you won't be shy  
23 about that.

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: All right.

25 THE COURT: Is everybody else okay? Two more hands

Jury Selection

31

1 on the scheduling issue, yes. Okay, let me start with Mr. Ng.

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am in 32BJ as well, and I  
3 know that we don't get paid for this.

4 THE COURT: Well, I am not sure it's true for  
5 everybody.

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

7 THE COURT: If you know that you are not going to  
8 get paid, let me know that. If you find out, let me know  
9 that.

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.

11 THE COURT: And, Ms. Westbrook?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have three small children,  
13 I'm a stay-at-home mom. I depend on my husband to go to work  
14 and I typically am the one who picks up our children after  
15 school.

16 THE COURT: And how are you --

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: So may I can make it on a  
18 shorter trial.

19 THE COURT: Well, how are you handling it today?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My husband is currently at  
21 home right now. He has the children currently at home. I  
22 have a stepdaughter which we have -- I have to work with her  
23 stepmother in order to pick up my stepdaughter from school and  
24 drop her off at school.

25 THE COURT: And is that an arrangement that you can

## Jury Selection

32

1 carry on for the next few weeks if you need to?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It would cause conflict, but  
3 maybe something shorter.

4 THE COURT: I am sure your preference would be for  
5 something shorter, and I am not trying to be unsympathetic, I  
6 am really not. I am trying to figure out if you can manage it  
7 and it is inconvenient, in which case I am going to ask you to  
8 stay; or you just cannot manage it.

9 People who cannot put food on the table, I am  
10 letting go. People who have inconvenience, I am asking them  
11 to stay. And I have to trust what you tell me.

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It's just my husband travels  
13 a lot from New York to Philly.

14 THE COURT: Does he have trips planned in the next  
15 three weeks?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. He has work on Friday  
17 and he has a work event on Tuesday as well, Which requires him  
18 to travel.

19 THE COURT: I am going to excuse you.

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you.

21 (Prospective Juror No. 21 excused.)

22 THE COURT: Did I see some other hands come up?

23 Mr. Khurshid, did you raise your hand?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. I was going to say in  
25 reference to the 32BJ union, I'm with them as well. They pay



## Jury Selection

33

1 up to ten days, and then the management company covers the  
2 rest after that.

3 THE COURT: Okay, so hopefully you guys can be  
4 managed.

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, yeah.

6 THE COURT: Okay, thank you.

7 Anybody else have a scheduling issue that I have not  
8 addressed yet?

9 And we have got one seat to fill. Could we have  
10 Kelly Cruz in the middle seat in the front row on the right  
11 side?

12 And. Ms. Cruz, do you have a scheduling issue?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

14 THE COURT: Okay, wonderful.

15 I am going to move on from the scheduling issue. I  
16 know it's a tough one, folks, believe me. You did not plan on  
17 spending three weeks here when you got called for jury duty.  
18 Most of you won't, that is the good news, but some of you  
19 will. I am moving on from it, so if there is anything else on  
20 the scheduling issue, I would rather hear it from you now. If  
21 I hear it from you later I will hear it from you still, but  
22 anyone else that I missed? Okay.

23 Leaving aside, of course, folks that I have not  
24 called up yet. If I call you up and you have an issue, of  
25 course, let me know.

## Jury Selection

34

1 All right, next question for everyone in the group  
2 that I called by name, do any of you have any physical  
3 problem: Hearing loss, vision loss, need to take frequent  
4 medication, that would just make it physically difficult for  
5 you to serve on this jury?

6 And, of course, I should say, if it anything that  
7 personal, do feel free to let me know at the sidebar if that  
8 is what you prefer.

9 All right, Ms. Harriott?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I'm hypoglycemic. I  
11 just want to ask are you allowed to eat like a little snack  
12 during?

13 THE COURT: We can certainly accommodate your  
14 need --

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Oh, okay.

16 THE COURT: -- for a snack if you need it.

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.

18 THE COURT: Absolutely.

19 And, Ms. Marks?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I get migraines and auras  
21 that are triggered by my upper back and neck spasms. They  
22 happen -- I don't really know how often they happen and I'm  
23 not really sure. They happen a few every year where I can't  
24 see, I get slurred speech and I'm on medicines.

25 THE COURT: Yes.

## Jury Selection

35

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It might happen within the  
2 next three weeks, but I just wanted to tell you.

3 THE COURT: I appreciate that. Now, I am not going  
4 to excuse you for something that happens a few times a year.

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, no, I just wanted to  
6 tell you.

7 THE COURT: Of course. But if that happens, we  
8 always pick alternate jurors, so we would accommodate you in  
9 that sense.

10 Do you avoid triggers if you can stand up and  
11 stretch?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. I go to physical  
13 therapy twice a week to help.

14 THE COURT: Okay. Well, if you are in the jury box  
15 and you need to stand up and stretch to avoid triggering a  
16 migraine, you are absolutely fine to do that, just let Judge  
17 Vitaliano know, just let him know as well that that is  
18 something you need to do.

19 Anybody else? Yes, Ms. Fletcher-Lewis.

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I have back pain. I  
21 had two surgeries on my back and if I sit down long period of  
22 time, it hurt.

23 THE COURT: The same thing, can you ease that by  
24 stretching and taking breaks?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

## Jury Selection

36

1 THE COURT: Okay. All right, anybody else have a  
2 physical issue?

3 Yes, Mr. Patrick.

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, I also have migraines,  
5 cervicogenic migraines, because of issues with my neck, a  
6 similar situation.

7 THE COURT: Okay. Can we accommodate it the same  
8 way we are accommodating the others?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I believe so.

10 THE COURT: Okay, wonderful.

11 Anybody else? Okay.

12 Do any of you have any difficulty understanding and  
13 speaking the English language?

14 And you will understand why I ask this question as I  
15 do this way: Please, if you are understanding the question I  
16 am asking right now, please raise your hand.

17 Keep it raised. I just want to make sure I have not  
18 missed somebody who did not understand the question. All  
19 right, wonderful.

20 The next question: Do any of you have any  
21 experience either studying law, whether at law school or any  
22 other place, or working in any capacity in a law office?

23 And, again, I will do this row by row. Let me start  
24 with Ms. Harriott.

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I'm a legal secretary

Jury Selection

37

1 for a law firm.

2 THE COURT: Okay, what kind of practice?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It's litigation,  
4 construction litigation.

5 THE COURT: Does it include criminal practice at  
6 all?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, we have some cases in  
8 the Eastern District.

9 THE COURT: In the Eastern District?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, and the Southern  
11 District and also the Supreme.

12 THE COURT: Okay. Do you appear in court yourself?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, no.

14 THE COURT: Okay. Now, a few questions for people  
15 who have experience working in the law.

16 One is, particularly since your firm has cases in  
17 this district and criminal cases as well, I assume on the  
18 other side is the United States Attorney's office.

19 Would that affect your ability to be fair in a case  
20 that is brought by the U.S. Attorney's office?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not at all.

22 THE COURT: Okay.

23 Anything else about working for a law firm or the  
24 particular firm that you work for that you think would make it  
25 difficult for you to be fair?

## Jury Selection

38

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

2 THE COURT: The other kind of question that I have  
3 for anybody who studied law or worked in a law office is that  
4 you cannot help but pick up knowledge about the law and legal  
5 rules when you have that experience. And what is important  
6 for all jurors is that you are deciding the case from the same  
7 set of rules.

8 And if you are selected as a juror in this case,  
9 Judge Vitaliano will give you instructions about what the  
10 legal rules are that apply to this case and all jurors must  
11 follow those same rules. Now, for lawyers or people who work  
12 in a law office, sometimes that can be difficult.

13 And so the question for you, Ms. Harriott, and for  
14 anyone else who had this experience, is would you have  
15 difficulty putting aside what you have learned about the law  
16 along the way and just applying the rules that you get from  
17 Judge Vitaliano?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

19 THE COURT: Okay.

20 And the reason for that, folks, is what we do not  
21 want to happen is you are in the jury room and somebody says:  
22 Well, wait, isn't the legal rule this? And the person who  
23 works at the law office says: No, no, no, I know better.  
24 Don't listen to the judge. Here's the rule.

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm not an attorney.

Jury Selection

39

1 THE COURT: Well, look, you don't have to be an  
2 attorney to have some pretty strong views of what you think  
3 the law is.

4 So you would not have that problem?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

6 THE COURT: Wonderful.

7 Anyone else in the jury box who has experience  
8 studying law or works in the law?

9 Mr. Claro.

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I was an  
11 administrative assistant at a law firm, a private firm, maybe  
12 about 12 years ago in college.

13 THE COURT: First of all, would it affect your  
14 ability to be fair?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

16 THE COURT: Was there any kind of criminal practice  
17 there?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Did you have cases with the U.S.  
20 Attorney's office on the other side?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not that I know of.

22 THE COURT: Okay. Would you have any difficulty  
23 putting aside what you have learned about the law and just  
24 deciding it based on the rules you get from Judge Vitaliano?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, sir.

## Jury Selection

40

1 THE COURT: Okay.

2 Anybody else in the jury box?

3 And how about on the right side of the courtroom?

4 Ms. Woods. You are not Ms. Woods, I'm sorry,  
5 Ms. Giordano.

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm an attorney admitted to  
7 practice in New York, but I don't practice as an attorney. I  
8 work as an underwriter in an insurance company.

9 THE COURT: Okay. Have you practiced in the past?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A long time ago, over twenty  
11 years ago.

12 THE COURT: What was the area you practiced?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I worked as a claims  
14 attorney at Prudential Securities.

15 THE COURT: Anything about your experience as a  
16 lawyer that would affect your ability to be fair?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

18 THE COURT: Would you have any difficulty putting  
19 aside your knowledge of the law and just applying the rules  
20 that you get from Judge Vitaliano?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

22 THE COURT: And, Ms. Weinstein, did you have your  
23 hand up?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I just mention I was  
25 social work with lawyers for children when I was in grad



## Jury Selection

41

1 school, and I currently work for a non-profit where I assist  
2 our lawyers division. While it's not working at a law firm, I  
3 fund raise for the lawyers.

4 THE COURT: Anything about your work or your  
5 experience working with lawyers that would affect your ability  
6 to be fair?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not that I know of.

8 THE COURT: Okay. And would you have any difficulty  
9 putting aside what you have learned about the law to just  
10 apply the rules you get from the judge?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'll do my best.

12 THE COURT: Anybody else study law or work in a law  
13 office? Okay.

14 All right, the next thing I want to talk to you  
15 about, I just told you you will get some rules from Judge  
16 Vitaliano, and you will, but there are some really fundamental  
17 rules that apply in every criminal case and I want to go  
18 through some of those with you now to see if any of you would  
19 have difficulty following those rules.

20 So, first, every person who has been accused of a  
21 crime is presumed to be innocent.

22 Is there anybody who would have difficulty applying  
23 that rule of law?

24 Second, a person who has been charged with a crime  
25 has absolutely no burden, no obligation to prove that he is

## Jury Selection

42

1 not guilty. The sole burden of proof in this case, and in  
2 every criminal case, is on the Government.

3 Is there anybody who has any difficulty accepting  
4 and applying that rule of law?

5 Third, the Government has the burden of proving each  
6 element of each crime charged beyond a reasonable doubt. If  
7 the Government fails to do this, the jury has an obligation to  
8 return a verdict of not guilty.

9 Is there anybody who thinks they would have  
10 difficulty accepting and applying that rule of law?

11 Fourth, a person who has been accused of a crime may  
12 only be convicted on a unanimous verdict. That is, all of the  
13 jurors have to agree that the defendant's guilty of a  
14 particular offense has been proved beyond a reasonable doubt.

15 Is there anybody here who thinks they would have  
16 difficulty accepting and applying that rule of law?

17 Fifth, jurors are exclusive judges of the facts. If  
18 you are a juror in this case, it is going to be your function  
19 to decide the facts, but you will have to do it according to  
20 the legal rules. And as I told you earlier, you will receive  
21 instructions on those rules from Judge Vitaliano and if you  
22 are a juror you must follow those rules, even if you disagree  
23 with them or if you think they are unwise.

24 Is there anybody here who thinks they would have any  
25 difficulty in accepting and applying that rule of law?

## Jury Selection

43

1           And finally, Mr. Brack has no obligation to testify  
2 or to provide any proof whatsoever. He is presumed innocent,  
3 and that presumption stays with him throughout the trial and  
4 it is only rebutted if the jury unanimously finds that he is  
5 guilty.

6           Is there anybody that has any problem with that  
7 rule, if you have any of difficulty accepting and applying?

8           All right, let me tell you now about the charges in  
9 the case.

10           In a criminal case like this, the charges against a  
11 defendant are contained in what's called an Indictment. And  
12 an Indictment is simply a way of letting the defendant know  
13 what the Government has accused him of. It is a way of giving  
14 him notice of the charges. An Indictment is an accusation and  
15 nothing more. An Indictment is not evidence, and if you are a  
16 juror in this case you must give it no weight in your  
17 deliberations.

18           I also want to say that nothing I say today or  
19 nothing that anyone else in the courtroom says today in  
20 describing the case or in discussing jury selection, none of  
21 that is evidence. If you are a juror in this case, the  
22 evidence that you will consider will come only from the trial  
23 testimony of witnesses, from exhibits that are admitted into  
24 evidence. That's it.

25           So, with that understanding, let me summarize the

## Jury Selection

44

1 charges in the Indictment to help you make a decision about  
2 whether you could be fair as a juror. It is not evidence.

3 So, the Government has accused Mr. Brack of nine  
4 crimes arising from its allegation that he participated in the  
5 robberies of various 24-hour convenience stores in Queens, and  
6 that he brandished or discharged a gun in doing so.

7 So, there is one count of conspiracy to commit  
8 robbery, one count of attempted robbery, three counts of  
9 robbery, three counts of possessing and brandishing a firearm  
10 during a crime of violence, and one count of possessing,  
11 brandishing and discharging a firearm during a crime of  
12 violence. Those are the nine charges in the Indictment.

13 Based on that description I have just given you, do  
14 any of you think that you have heard or read or seen anything  
15 about this case or think that you know anything about this  
16 case?

17 So, as you came in earlier we gave you all a  
18 document, a list of names on one side and some places and  
19 stores on the other side.

20 Anybody not have the list? Okay.

21 Please take a moment. I will give you some time.  
22 Please take a moment to read through that list on both sides  
23 of the sheet of paper carefully and when you are done, I am  
24 going to ask you if you know anyone or have any connection  
25 with any of the places on the list.

## Jury Selection

45

1 (Pause.)

2 THE COURT: Does anybody think that they know  
3 anybody on this list of names or have any connection with the  
4 stores and locations on the back of the page?

5 Yes, give me a moment.

6 I am sorry, you are Ms. Brown?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I don't know if --  
8 it's Jennifer Cardillo. I worked with a woman named Jennifer  
9 Cardillo. I don't know if it's the same name.

10 THE COURT: It could be. So tell me, the Jennifer  
11 Cardillo that you know, where do you know her from?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: From my job.

13 THE COURT: Which is what?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Department of Education.

15 THE COURT: Okay. And in terms of counsel, any  
16 reason to think it's the same Jennifer Cardillo?

17 MR. SELDEN: No. Thank you, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Anybody else?

19 Ms. Woods.

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I'm just familiar with  
21 one of the places.

22 THE COURT: Okay, tell me about it.

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I just know where it's at.

24 THE COURT: Which one are you talking about?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: The one on Merrick.

## Jury Selection

46

1 THE COURT: So you know that Rite Aid store?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

3 THE COURT: Do you have any connection to it other  
4 than knowing about it?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

6 THE COURT: I assume it is there. And, you know,  
7 folks, I don't really know the evidence in this case, but I  
8 assume it is there because you are going to hear testimony  
9 about events that happened there, possibly some of the events  
10 charged in the Indictment.

11 Would hearing evidence about that store affect your  
12 ability to be fair?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would say no. I mean I  
14 know the store. I know the layout. So I mean that might --

15 THE COURT: Well, that was going to be my next  
16 question.

17 You know the layout. Would you have difficulty in  
18 the jury room making sure that you are not bringing into the  
19 discussion something that you know about the store that has  
20 not been brought up in the trial?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, that wouldn't be a  
22 problem.

23 THE COURT: Okay, that wouldn't be a problem.

24 And I guess the last question is, we are going to  
25 have a point later in the day when the lawyers come up and

## Jury Selection

47

1 tell me what I have forgotten to ask, so I may come back to  
2 this.

3 But, again, I don't know, I can check quickly,  
4 counsel, am I correct that that location is one of the -- yes,  
5 in Count Eight.

6 MR. SELDEN: That's correct, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: So one of the accusations is that there  
8 was a robbery that Mr. Brack is charged with committing at  
9 that store.

10 Would hearing evidence that there was a robbery at  
11 that store, in itself, make it upsetting, just hard for you to  
12 focus on it --

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Oh, no.

14 THE COURT: -- and decide it fairly?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

16 THE COURT: All right.

17 Anybody else? Thank you.

18 Anybody else have any connection?

19 Yes, Ms. Camacho.

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. I don't have a  
21 connection, but my son works in a -- he works at a Walgreens  
22 that was robbed, and I just don't want to hear -- he's still  
23 working there, so I really don't want to hear a whole bunch of  
24 negative stuff because he doesn't want to leave that job.

25 THE COURT: Well, I am confident, and this is a

## Jury Selection

48

1 question I am going to get to later, so, folks, I do want you  
2 to bring up stuff if you think about it, but I do plan to get  
3 to these questions.

4 Would you find it difficult to be fair hearing  
5 evidence about robberies at a 24-hour convenience store?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I might.

7 THE COURT: Tell me, just tell me what is in your  
8 mind about what you think the process would be. Do you think  
9 it would lead you to favor one side or the other?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Maybe out of fear for my  
11 son, yeah.

12 THE COURT: Okay. Well, obviously, that is a  
13 personal reaction.

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Correct.

15 THE COURT: You have not heard any evidence.

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I haven't.

17 THE COURT: So it is not based on anything in the  
18 case, but if the subject matter strikes too close to home, I  
19 think we should find a different trial for you.

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Definitely.

21 THE COURT: I am going to ask you to go back down to  
22 the jury assembly room.

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you.

24 THE COURT: Thank you.

25 (Prospective Juror No. 7 excused.)



## Jury Selection

49

1 THE COURT: Yes, Ms. Weinstein.

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: As I referenced earlier,  
3 several of the names sound familiar as donors to the  
4 organization that I work at. While I don't know any of them  
5 in particular, I just wanted to reference that again.

6 THE COURT: I appreciate that.

7 Would hearing testimony about folks on this list,  
8 and some of them may be similar names but not the same  
9 people --

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Correct.

11 THE COURT: -- would that affect your ability to be  
12 fair?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think so.

14 And I also did want to mention that our caregiver  
15 lives in Woodside, Queens and is from there. So it's a  
16 neighborhood -- while I don't know these two locations, it is  
17 a neighborhood that I am familiar with from her.

18 THE COURT: And would that affect your ability to be  
19 fair?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would certainly -- you  
21 know, thought of any crimes happening in that area would  
22 certainly be upsetting.

23 So, again, I just wanted to reference it.

24 THE COURT: Counsel, could I see you at sidebar for  
25 a moment? A scheduling issue about our break.

SAM

OCR

RMR

CRR

RPR

## Jury Selection

50

1 (The following sidebar took place outside the  
2 hearing of the prospective jurors.)

3 THE COURT: Folks, I will get to the break in a  
4 moment, but I think we are about to get to this point where I  
5 get to this question about the list, and then we'll take a  
6 short break.

7 Any objection to my excusing Ms. Weinstein?

8 I think we are going to get this eventually, she  
9 will make sure of it. And I think in the interest of the  
10 shortness of life we might as well do it now.

11 Any objection?

12 MR. FARRELL: No.

13 MR. SELDEN: None from the Government. Thank you,  
14 Your Honor.

15 MR. SIEGEL: Thank you.

16 THE COURT: Have a seat, and as soon as I get  
17 through this round I will take a break.

18 (Sidebar concluded.)

19 (In open court - prospective jurors present.)

20 THE COURT: Okay. I want to get through the  
21 question about the list, and then I think we are going to take  
22 a break and then fill the empty seats after the break.

23 So have I missed anybody who felt they knew somebody  
24 who had a connection to any of the locations on the list?

25 All right.

## Jury Selection

51

1           Forgive me, Ms. Weinstein, I discussed, during the  
2 sidebar I discussed with the counsel, I am going to ask you to  
3 go down to the jury assembly room and see if there is another  
4 trial for you.

5           THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you.

6           (Prospective Juror No. 49 excused.)

7           THE COURT: All right, folks, we are going to take  
8 our mid-morning break. A couple things before I let you go.

9           First, let's try to keep it to under 15 minutes.  
10 So, by that clock on the wall I want you back in your seat at  
11 11:15. Try to be on time.

12           While you are on a break, on this break or any other  
13 that we take today, do not discuss the case with anyone; not  
14 with each other, not at all. If you happen to see any of  
15 these folks who are at the counsel table, do not be offended  
16 when they do not even acknowledge your presence. They are not  
17 being rude. They know that they cannot have any contact with  
18 any juror or prospective juror outside the courtroom. So they  
19 are just going to be sticking to that rule.

20           So, have a good break. Do not discuss the case. Be  
21 back in the same seat you are in. Look who is on either side  
22 of you, be in the same place seat, and be back here in  
23 15 minutes. Have a good break.

24           (Prospective jurors exited the courtroom.)

25           (Magistrate Judge [!JUDGE NAME] exited courtroom.)

## Jury Selection

52

1 (Defendant exited the courtroom.)

2 (Recess taken.)

3 (In open court - prospective jurors present.)

4 (Judge [!JUDGE NAME] entered the courtroom.)

5 (Defendant entered the courtroom.)

6 THE COURT: All right, folks, welcome back. I hope  
7 you had a good break.

8 Before I fill the empty seats, we had a couple of  
9 jurors who were going to make inquiries.

10 Were you able to?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm fine.

12 THE COURT: Good. Okay, great.

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm good.

14 THE COURT: Great. So let's move on.

15 I need to fill the empty seats. So in the seat  
16 closest to me in the second row, if I we can have Brittney  
17 Knoch.

18 Is it K-NOCH with a hard K?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Knock, like on a door.

20 THE COURT: Got it.

21 All right, and in the seat closest to the aisle on  
22 the left side of the courtroom in the front, could we have  
23 Sharmin Yousuf?

24 Ms. Knoch and Ms. Yousuf, let me get the two of you  
25 caught up.

Jury Selection

53

1 Any scheduling issues?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have travel plans prepaid  
3 for Friday of this week.

4 THE COURT: I see. We are going to have to let you  
5 go.

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.

7 (Prospective Juror No. 51 excused.)

8 THE COURT: All right.

9 Craig Romain, please.

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I also have.

11 THE COURT: Oh, you also have?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I am a full-time  
13 college student.

14 THE COURT: Okay, and you are enrolled in this  
15 semester?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

17 THE COURT: I will let you go as well. Go back down  
18 to the second floor, if you would.

19 (Prospective Juror No. 52 excused.)

20 THE COURT: Mr. Romain?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

22 THE COURT: Sit in the seat closest to me in the  
23 second row.

24 And then in the seat in the front row, Jacqueline  
25 Bueno-Graham.

## Sidebar

54

1 And folks who just joined us, do either of you have  
2 any scheduling issues?

3 No? Mr. Romain?

4 Ms. Bueno-Graham, do you have any scheduling issue?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Can I approach?

6 THE COURT: Yes, come on up.

7 (Sidebar held.)

8 (The following sidebar took place outside the  
9 hearing of the prospective jurors.)

10 (Prospective Juror No. 54 present at sidebar.)

11 THE COURT: All right, yes, ma'am.

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I just lost my husband  
13 June 30th, so --

14 THE COURT: I am very sorry.

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: -- so I'm not -- I'm not  
16 sleeping. So I really can't concentrate.

17 THE COURT: I understand. I am very sorry to hear  
18 it and I wish you the best. I will excuse you. Okay?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

20 THE COURT: But I do need you to go back down to the  
21 second floor.

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay. Thank you.

23 (Prospective Juror No. 54 leaves sidebar.)

24 (Prospective Juror No. 54 excused.)

25 (Sidebar concluded.)

## Sidebar

55

1 (In open court - prospective jurors present.)

2 THE COURT: In that front seat in the front row,  
3 Susan Teitelbaum, please.

4 Ms. Teitelbaum, do you have any scheduling issue?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would like to come up.

6 THE COURT: You also would like to come up; okay.  
7 Sidebar.

8 (Sidebar held.)

9 (The following sidebar took place outside the  
10 hearing of the prospective jurors.)

11 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Only because I have a  
13 medical issue.

14 THE COURT: Speak up.

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a medical issue. I  
16 have a cyst on my liver and I am going for testing next week.

17 THE COURT: I see. Is it just the one day testing?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't know. That's the  
19 thing, I honestly don't know. I don't know what my doctor is  
20 going to do.

21 THE COURT: All right, I am going to excuse you.

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you.

23 (Prospective Juror No. 55 leaves sidebar.)

24 (Prospective Juror No. 55 excused.)

25 (Sidebar concluded.)

## Jury Selection

56

1 (In open court - prospective jurors present.)

2 THE COURT: Next in that front row, can we have  
3 Nicholas Brigante, please.

4 Have a seat, sir.

5 Mr. Brigante, do you have any scheduling issue?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I do not.

7 THE COURT: Okay. And for Mr. Brigante and  
8 Mr. Romain, any medical or physical issues serving on a jury?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

11 THE COURT: You both speak and understand English?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

14 THE COURT: And do either of you have any experience  
15 studying law or working in a law office?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Actually, I'm a cop for  
18 NYPD.

19 THE COURT: Sorry, one more time.

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am a New York City police  
21 officer.

22 THE COURT: You are. That gets into another issue  
23 that I will get to later, folks. If that sparks a thought for  
24 you, hold onto it for a moment, I will come back to it.

25 So you are currently working as an officer?



## Jury Selection

57

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

2 THE COURT: And would the fact that you serve as an  
3 officer affect your ability to be fair in a criminal case  
4 generally?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, but I think it might be  
6 difficult to turn off the law enforcement perspective.

7 THE COURT: Okay. Well, tell me how you think it  
8 would play out.

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Because I made similar  
10 arrests in the past.

11 THE COURT: That was going to be my next question.  
12 I think that is a little too close to home for you.  
13 We will see if we can find a different kind of trial for you.

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.

15 THE COURT: So if you can go back down to the jury  
16 assembly room.

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you.

18 (Prospective Juror No. 56 excused.)

19 THE COURT: In that same seat, may we have next  
20 Charles Gosrisirikul.

21 (No response.)

22 THE COURT: If I mispronounced the name, please  
23 correct me. Charles Gosrisirikul.

24 (No response.)

25 THE COURT: And in case I have been mangling the

Jury Selection

58

1 name, G-O-S-R-I-S-I-R-I-K-U-L is the last name.

2 (No response.)

3 THE COURT: Are you Mr. Gosrisirikul?

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

5 THE COURT: Well, he did not show up.

6 And, counsel, if he shows up later, I will fill an  
7 empty seat with him. So we will come back to him.

8 James Dunford.

9 Mr. Dunford, do you have any scheduling issue with  
10 the trial?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

12 THE COURT: Do you have any physical issues serving?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

14 THE COURT: And you speak and understand English?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

16 THE COURT: Do you have any experience studying law  
17 or working in a law office?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

19 THE COURT: And for both you and Mr. Romain who  
20 joined us, you heard me discuss the rules that apply in every  
21 criminal case.

22 Do either of you think you would have trouble  
23 applying them?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No problem.

25 THE COURT: Sir?

Jury Selection

59

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

2 THE COURT: Okay.

3 And do either of you think based on the description  
4 of the charges I gave earlier that you have any connection to  
5 anybody involved in the case, or if you know anything about  
6 it?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: None.

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

9 THE COURT: Did you recognize any names on the list  
10 or have any connection with any of the places?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: One of the names sounds  
12 like -- like a co-worker who I used to know, but it's a very  
13 common -- common name, so I don't -- I don't think it's the  
14 same guy.

15 THE COURT: Okay, can you tell me which name you  
16 recognize?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Daniel Rivera.

18 THE COURT: Where do you know Mr. Rivera from?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I used to work with him.

20 THE COURT: Where?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: At my job in Tribeca at a  
22 clothing store.

23 THE COURT: I'm sorry, what kind of job, a clothing  
24 store?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

## Jury Selection

60

1 THE COURT: And, counsel, any reason to think it is  
2 the same Daniel Rivera?

3 MR. SELDEN: No. Thank you, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: So probably a different person. As you  
5 noted, it is a common name.

6 All right, so I think that gets us caught up.

7 Let's move on, and this is now questions, again, for  
8 everyone in the group of people I have called by name.

9 So you heard me before the break describe the  
10 charges in the case arising from the allegation that Mr. Brack  
11 was involved in some robberies of convenience stores and he is  
12 charged with brandishing and discharging a gun.

13 Is there anything about the nature of those  
14 accusations that makes any of you think that it would be  
15 difficult for you to be fair in a trial with those kinds of  
16 charges?

17 Yes, Ms. Thomas.

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I don't think I can be  
19 fair thinking about it, you know, being a black mother and in  
20 the neighborhood I grew up with we have a tendency not to be  
21 trustful towards the police officers. So that's what I've  
22 been thinking about. I don't think I would be fair, to be  
23 honest with you.

24 I've been watching a lot of movies on TV about  
25 celebrating Black History Month, so I think all those things

Jury Selection

61

1 are inside my heart, so I don't know if I could be fair.

2 THE COURT: Okay. Well, I am going to excuse you.  
3 We will find a different trial.

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you.

5 THE COURT: We can get you on something else.

6 (Prospective Juror No. 37 excused.)

7 (Person entered the courtroom.)

8 THE COURT: Do you happen to be Mr. Gosrisirikul?

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

10 THE COURT: All right.

11 And before I fill that seat, is there anything  
12 anybody else?

13 Yes, Ms. DiChiaro?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I served on a grand  
15 jury about five years ago and, correct me if I'm wrong, but in  
16 serving on the grand jury and you need enough evidence  
17 to indict --

18 THE COURT: Well, before you go on with that, grand  
19 jury service is a different rule and there are different  
20 standards of proof for what grand jurors look into and what  
21 trial jurors look into.

22 But as I said, when we have a criminal trial, we  
23 start fresh. We start off with no evidence. And if you were  
24 on a jury now, this is true for everybody, if you were on the  
25 trial of a jury and all of a sudden the judge said "Trial is

## Jury Selection

62

1 over, start deliberations," every one of us knows what the  
2 verdict would be: Not guilty because there has been no  
3 evidence. You would be legally required, if the trial ended  
4 right now, to say that the Government has failed to prove its  
5 case because it presented no evidence. So that is where we  
6 start in the trial jury.

7 Does that address your question?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. I thought that is the  
9 defendant being indicted --

10 THE COURT: I am going to ask you to come up to the  
11 sidebar to discuss the issue further.

12

13 (Continued on the following page.)

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1 (Sidebar.)

2 THE COURT: What's your question, ma'am?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Serving on a grand jury.

4 When we were serving my thought, my understanding was the  
5 grand jury is there for evidence to indict to go to trial. We  
6 would say that's a no. In this particular incident, since he  
7 is coming to trial, there was enough -- am I wrong that there  
8 was enough evidence to indict the person? That I would think  
9 that he's guilty. That's what my thought it's.

10 THE COURT: So every person who has been charged  
11 with a crime is guilty?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

13 THE COURT: Why do we bother with a trial then?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. That's why I'm asking  
15 you.

16 THE COURT: So right now the defendant is not  
17 guilty?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay. So in grand jury  
19 bringing him it only means it's an indictment to present  
20 evidence?

21 THE COURT: The grand jury process has literally --

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm sorry.

23 THE COURT: No. No. Keep in mind, the question is  
24 whether you are going to be fair. If you think he's guilty  
25 because he's been charged, that's what you think. It's not

1 our law. If it's what you think and you can't be fair because  
2 you couldn't get that out of your head that's something we all  
3 need to know.

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'll be honest, I don't  
5 know. I'm thinking yes I would think they are guilty.

6 THE COURT: I'm not going to let you serve on this  
7 jury. You are not qualified. If you think that somebody who  
8 has been charged with a crime is guilty simply because they  
9 have been charged, you really shouldn't be on a criminal jury.  
10 It's totally foreign to our system of law. You are correct  
11 that when you sit on a grand jury you make a determination if  
12 there's enough evidence to go to trial. What you don't know  
13 is whether that evidence would be admissible at trial.

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.

15 THE COURT: What you don't know is what the  
16 defendant would say because you only hear from one side. So  
17 we need people to serve on a jury who have an open mind.

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I do have an open mind. I  
19 was confused about --

20 THE COURT: From what you have said so far I would  
21 not want to put you in a position of judging somebody's guilt  
22 or innocence. It's not guilt or innocence. It's whether the  
23 government has proved its case. Right now they have not. I  
24 hope we can find a civil trial for you. I'll send you  
25 downstairs to see if we can do that. Have a good day.



1 (In open court.)

2 THE COURT: All right. Is there anybody else who  
3 thinks that just because of the nature of the accusations it  
4 would be difficult to be fair? Mr. Traina?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My son is a New York City  
6 Police Officer and I know he responds to robberies and things  
7 like that. So with gun play.

8 THE COURT: Again, try to understand. Is that  
9 experience you have had is familiar or because your son has  
10 responded to these calls that the government has proved its  
11 case?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think it's proved  
13 its case because they have not presented it.

14 THE COURT: Would you start off thinking that the  
15 government is most likely going to prove its case simply  
16 because it's accused somebody of these crimes? How would you  
17 make the decision?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right now it's the nature of  
19 the crimes that's being explained, knowing what my son has to  
20 deal with every day.

21 THE COURT: You think you would be more likely to  
22 favor one side in this case?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would think that I would.

24 THE COURT: All right. We can't help you from  
25 thinking what you think. I think everybody else here

1 understands whether your son has done one robbery call or a  
2 million, it tells us literally nothing about whether the  
3 charges in this case are true. If that's something that you  
4 can't get past you shouldn't be on this jury. I'll ask you to  
5 go down to the jury assembly room.

6 Is there anybody else who thinks they would have  
7 difficulty being fair because of the nature of the allegation?  
8 Ms. Bellefond.

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My dad is on disability and  
10 he's worked on robberies. I heard a lot of this.

11 THE COURT: Again, I won't ask you to elaborate on  
12 that. The logic is quite honestly lost on me.

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I might favor --

14 THE COURT: Do you think you are likely to favor one  
15 side or another.

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I could.

17 THE COURT: We all could. Do you think it's likely?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It might be. I don't know.

19 THE COURT: We'll find somebody who can be fair in  
20 this case. If you can go down to the jury assembly room.

21 Is there anybody else who thinks they would have  
22 difficulty being fair because of the nature of the allegations  
23 here? Fill the empty seats. The fifth seat in the front row.

24 THE CLERK: Fourth seat.

25 THE COURT: Forgive me. Yes, fourth seat in the

1 front row, we have Stephen Figuieredo. And the fifth seat in  
2 the front row, Teresa Vance Burke.

3 In the third seat in the second row, Daniella Bock.  
4 And in the third seat from the wall in the second row on the  
5 left side, Jessie Ferraro.

6 So for the jurors who have just joined us, first,  
7 let start with any scheduling issues. Ms. Bock?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm a full-time student.

9 THE COURT: Okay. I'll excuse you. Anyone else?  
10 Ms. Ferrero?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I just served jury duty five  
12 weeks ago with county court. I'm a teacher and New York State  
13 tests start on March 25.

14 THE COURT: I am sorry for the bad luck. But I take  
15 it you have substitutes who will sit in if you are selected?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It would be a different  
17 person each day.

18 THE COURT: I'm going to ask you to stay. Anyone  
19 else with a scheduling issue?

20 In the empty seat in the second row, we have Sean  
21 Wilson, please:

22 Mr. Wilson, do you have a scheduling issue? Okay.  
23 The jurors who just joined us in the last few moments, any of  
24 you have a health problems or a physical issue that would make  
25 it physically difficult for you to serve? Any of you have any

1 difficulty speaking and understanding English?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I do.

3 THE COURT: Hold on.

4 Do any of you have any experience working in a law  
5 office or studying law. Ms. Westbrook?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A long time ago and not  
7 criminal.

8 THE COURT: Would you have any difficulty putting  
9 aside what you remember from your legal studies and following  
10 the rules from the judge?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

12 THE COURT: Would it affect your ability to be fair  
13 at all?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

15 THE COURT: Anybody else? Again for the jurors who  
16 just joined us, as well as anybody else, it can't hurt to give  
17 some more thought to this. Let me quickly remind you of the  
18 rules that apply in every criminal case. Mr. Malcolm is  
19 innocent. The government alone has the burden of proving his  
20 guilt and they have to prove his guilt beyond a reasonable  
21 doubt. The standard of proof is, as I said, proof beyond a  
22 reasonable doubt. If the government fails to prove  
23 Mr. Malcolm's guilt on a particular offense by proof beyond a  
24 reasonable doubt, you must find him not guilty. The jurors  
25 must be unanimous in their verdict. The jurors must decide

1 the facts based on legal rules that they must follow even if  
2 they disagree with those real rules. Mr. Malcolm has no  
3 obligation to testify or provide any evidence at all. The  
4 government has the sole burden in the case. Do any of you  
5 have any difficulty applying those rules? Okay.

6 Those who just joined us, do you think you know  
7 anything about this case or have any connection to people at  
8 the counsel table or the names or places on the list? Again  
9 for the people who just joined us, anything about the nature  
10 of the charges that makes you think it would be difficult to  
11 be fair?

12 Let's move on to all of the jurors I called by name.  
13 Do any of you have any experiences working in a 24 hour  
14 convenience store, grocery, pharmacy, 7-Eleven, Rite Aid, CVS,  
15 Duane Reade, those kind of places or any other customer facing  
16 job?

17 Mr. Haque?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I did work at a 24 hour  
19 YMCA.

20 THE COURT: In that role did you have any experience  
21 either with training for a robbery or robbery itself?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes and no.

23 THE COURT: Tell me about it.

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It was a 24 hour residence  
25 and there was a police precinct across the street, we were

1 instructed on protocols how to handle if anybody attempted to  
2 rob. This was this college, a long time ago, no cellphones,  
3 no computers and we did have a couple of incidents that I did  
4 have to report to the precinct.

5 THE COURT: A couple of questions on that. As you  
6 said it's a long time ago, circumstances change. I don't know  
7 what the proof will be here. But I think one thing to avoid  
8 is you have to use your common sense of course and your  
9 history. Everybody is entitled to do that. You have to judge  
10 the case on the evidence here and not -- the issue is not how  
11 the proof stacks up against what people might have done in  
12 different organizations. You judge every witness based on  
13 what they tell you, how credible it seems to you. But nobody  
14 is required to meet the training that you receive. Do you  
15 have any difficulty judging evidence about how people were  
16 trained or what they did based on what they say here and on  
17 what others say here and what you learned before?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It's hard to separate your  
19 personal experiences from any present situation.

20 THE COURT: You are not required to put aside your  
21 personal experience. You know about what you know. What  
22 we're trying to avoid is in the jury room, during  
23 deliberations, saying that's not credible because that's not  
24 what we are trained to do in that situation. They may have  
25 received different training. So you don't know. If somebody

1 else comes on the witness stand and says here is what the  
2 training is or should be and you don't believe it, that's one  
3 thing. The parties have a right to know what training is  
4 being discussed. So unless you are a witness you couldn't  
5 bring that to the table in the jury. Do you understand?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think so.

7 THE COURT: Do you have any difficulty now?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: In terms of judging the  
9 training that the person received?

10 THE COURT: Would you have difficulty deciding it if  
11 you hear about what training they received and would you have  
12 difficulty being fair and not saying I'm an expert in this,  
13 fellow jurors, I know better? Would that be difficult for  
14 you?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think so.

16 THE COURT: Anybody else? Ms. Ferraro?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My family is in the  
18 drugstore business.

19 THE COURT: Would that affect your ability to be  
20 fair?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think it would.

22 THE COURT: Congratulations. You found a way out.  
23 We'll send you back down to see if there's another trial  
24 you'll be better able to serve on.

25 Let's have in that same seat Wei Zhang, please. Did

1 I skip somebody?

2 THE CLERK: No, your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Zhang, do you have any scheduling  
4 issues?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

6 THE COURT: Any difficulty giving him a fair trial  
7 and serving on this jury?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

9 THE COURT: Have you studied law or worked in a law  
10 office?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

12 THE COURT: Would you have difficulty accepting the  
13 rules that I described already for a criminal case?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

15 THE COURT: Do you know anything about this case?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

17 THE COURT: Do you have any connection with the  
18 folks or places on the list?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

20 THE COURT: And is there anything about the nature  
21 of the crimes that would make it difficult for you to be fair?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

23 THE COURT: Do you have any experience working in a  
24 24 hour store or customer facing role?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I worked at a UPS store



1 years ago.

2 THE COURT: Did you receive any training in  
3 robberies or experience yourself?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

5 THE COURT: Anybody else have training in what to do  
6 in the event of a robbery or experience with that? You're Ms?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Whelan.

8 THE COURT: Whelan.

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I just remembered. When I  
10 was young a long time ago I was held up.

11 THE COURT: Would that affect your ability to be  
12 fair here?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think so.

14 THE COURT: Anybody else before I move on from that  
15 question?

16 Now, this will get back to some responses I've heard  
17 in connection with law enforcement, which is a separate topic  
18 I'll get to in a few moments. Right now I want to focus your  
19 attention on witnesses. During the course of the trial you'll  
20 hear from any number of witnesses. They'll have different  
21 backgrounds, different jobs. They are all equal in the eyes  
22 of the law and you have to judge the credibility of each  
23 witness based on what they tell you and how credible it seems  
24 but not based on assumptions about who they are or what they  
25 do. So you listen, you hear what they have to say, you

1 shouldn't say, oh, this person has this background so I do or  
2 don't believe them. That's the goal. As a general matter do  
3 any of you think that would be difficult for you? As a  
4 specific example, do any of you think that you would find it  
5 difficult being completely fair listening to the testimony  
6 from a law enforcement officer? You are thinking they are  
7 more likely to be telling the truth or more likely not to be  
8 telling the truth than other witnesses?

9           Along the same lines, I'm told that some of the  
10 witnesses will testify not to facts, like the other witnesses,  
11 but instead they will tell you their opinions based on their  
12 expertise in analyzing firearms or ballistics or DNA evidence.  
13 Now, jurors are allowed to consider that kind of opinion  
14 testimony. Judge Vitaliano will give you instructions about  
15 how to evaluate it if you are selected for the jury. What I  
16 want to find out now if there's anybody who feels they could  
17 not be fair and impartial in considering as we call it expert  
18 testimony. It may be about expert testimony in general or you  
19 may have views about expert testimony in firearms or  
20 ballistics or DNA evidence. Anybody think they would have  
21 trouble judging that fairly?

22           Do any of you have any connection either yourself or  
23 family member or close friend with anyone on the staff of the  
24 United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of  
25 New York? How about any connection, same thing, family

1 member, yourself or family member or close friend, any  
2 connection with somebody who works for the Bureau of Alcohol,  
3 Tobacco and Firearms and Explosives, ATF or the police  
4 department? Ms. Giordano?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a close friend that  
6 works for ATF. He's an attorney for them.

7 THE COURT: Would that lead you to favor one side or  
8 another in this particular case?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

10 THE COURT: ATF has a role in this?

11 MR. SELDEN: That's correct.

12 THE COURT: I'll have a more general question about  
13 law enforcement in a moment. Anyone else connection with ATF?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: NYPD and my husband, was  
15 back in the 80's.

16 THE COURT: Would that affect your ability to be  
17 fair and impartial?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

19 THE COURT: Anyone in connection with the ATF?

20 Ms. Vance Burke?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Multiple close friends who  
22 are retired police officers.

23 THE COURT: Yes.

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm not sure. Can I?

25 THE COURT: Come on up.

1 (Sidebar.)

2 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have multiple close  
4 friends who are retired police officers. That's one side.  
5 February 28, 2011 I was arrested. All the charges were  
6 dropped because the police lied during the testimony of the  
7 activities that occurred: So this is where I am. I mean so I  
8 would try my best to be fair. I do have -- because I do have  
9 very close friends who are police officers, the same situation  
10 with NYPD I was treated unfairly, the charges were dropped and  
11 I brought a lawsuit against the NYPD. That's where I am. Not  
12 something I want to broadcast.

13 THE COURT: I'm sorry to put you in this position.

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm trying to be as fair as  
15 possible.

16 THE COURT: I can see you are giving it a lot of  
17 thought and I appreciate it. What strikes me from what you  
18 are telling me you have experienced good and bad, honest and  
19 dishonest from law enforcement?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Exactly.

21 THE COURT: I could certainly see somebody checking  
22 themselves out from the system entirely based on that. I can  
23 see others whose reaction is each case is different and I  
24 don't know what I'm going to hear until I hear it. I accept  
25 whatever choice you make. We need to know if you think you

1 come into this case being fair to both sides or giving one  
2 side an advantage?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would try my best to judge  
4 it on the what's presented. I feel since I'm in this position  
5 I wanted to be completely honest and I didn't necessarily want  
6 to publicize everything.

7 THE COURT: I totally appreciate that and respect  
8 it. From what I can tell you are doing your best to be fair  
9 and I have no reason to doubt it.

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you.

11 THE COURT: Have a seat.

12 (In open court.)

13 THE COURT: Did I miss anybody who has a connection  
14 with the U.S. Attorney?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My husband is a retired  
16 policeman.

17 THE COURT: Would that affect your ability to be  
18 fair in this case do you think?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think so.

20 MR. STEIN: Can we have her name?

21 THE COURT: Ms. Whelen.

22 Is that right?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

24 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have family members and

1 close friends in the NYPD.

2 THE COURT: Would that affect your ability to be  
3 fair?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think so.

5 THE COURT: Anybody else. Ms. Marks?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My brother just took the  
7 NYPD exam.

8 THE COURT: Would that affect your ability to be  
9 fair do you think?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

11 THE COURT: All right. More broadly, do any of you  
12 personally, family members or close friends, have any  
13 connection to law enforcement? Considered broadly, any law  
14 enforcement agency, federal, state or local, prosecutor,  
15 correction officers, court officers, if you have somebody  
16 close to you who has a role in enforcing the law, let's make  
17 sure we find out about it. Ms. Brown?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My brother-in-law is a  
19 retired correction officer and my best friend is a correction  
20 officer.

21 THE COURT: Do you think that would have any effect  
22 on your being fair?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, your Honor. My husband  
24 worked in Duane Reade for about ten years and he was a manager  
25 of the store and it did get robbed once.

1           THE COURT: Do you think that would affect your  
2 ability to be fair in this case?

3           THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I just wanted to mention it.

4           THE COURT: Mr. Hernandez?

5           THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My brother is a retired  
6 corrections officer.

7           THE COURT: Would that affect your ability to be  
8 fair?

9           THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

10          THE COURT: Mr. Dunford.

11          THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My brother-in-law is a cop  
12 in Connecticut.

13          THE COURT: Would that affect your ability to be  
14 fair do you think?

15          THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

16          THE COURT: Did I miss anybody else on that?  
17 Mr. Claro.

18          THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My brother-in-law is a  
19 police officer. My cousin works for the Supreme Court as a  
20 clerk.

21          THE COURT: Do you think either of those  
22 relationships would have any effect on your ability to be  
23 fair?

24          THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

25          THE COURT: Anyone else that I missed?

1           Have any ever you or a family member or close friend  
2           ever been involved in litigation in any way? That could be in  
3           a civil case or criminal case, as a plaintiff, as a defendant,  
4           as a witness, as somebody who was subpoenaed, investigated, in  
5           any way? Any connection like that? If you already mentioned  
6           it to me in one of your previous answers you don't have to go  
7           back to it. Any that I have not heard about yet, Mr. Claro?

8           THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My girlfriend's brother is  
9           an attorney for New York City.

10          THE COURT: I'm not trying to get at attorneys so  
11          much. I want to know people who have themselves any kind of  
12          stake in litigation for themselves as a party, as a witness,  
13          as a participants. Mr. Caccavo?

14          THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was subpoenaed to be  
15          before a grand jury.

16          THE COURT: Would that have any affect on your  
17          ability to be fair?

18          THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

19          THE COURT: Mr. Beckman?

20          THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I broke my leg one time.

21          THE COURT: Is there anything about that experience  
22          that would affect your ability to be fair in a different case?

23          THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

24          THE COURT: Civil cases sometimes people have  
25          experiences going through litigation that just gives them



1 views about litigation or courts in general. I wanted to make  
2 sure I address that. Anybody else? Ms. Ray?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My brother is an  
4 investigator.

5 THE COURT: Would that experience affect your  
6 ability to be fair in a case where the government is  
7 represented here?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

9 THE COURT: Anybody else? Whether or not there was  
10 any kind of litigation, do any of you have any kind of  
11 experience with a crime yourself, again family member or close  
12 friend as well, whether as the victim of a crime, somebody who  
13 has been accused of a crime or investigated, someone who was a  
14 participant in a criminal investigation in some way, even if  
15 there wasn't a case. Something that you have told plea about  
16 you don't have to tell me again. Something we have not covered  
17 yet.

18 Mrs. Knoch?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My parents had their  
20 identity stolen by our live-in home care aide.

21 THE COURT: Would that affect your ability to be  
22 fair in this case?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

24 THE COURT: Ms. Williams?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My husband was convicted of

1 a charge and he did fifteen years.

2 THE COURT: Would anything about that experience --

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

4 THE COURT: Would it affect your ability to be fair  
5 at all?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

7 THE COURT: Anyone else?

8 Last general question for all of you. I'll be  
9 passing around a microphone to ask you folks individual  
10 questions about yourselves. Last general question to the  
11 group. I have asked you a lot of different things this  
12 morning. I cannot think of everything that might affect your  
13 ability to be fair. I don't want that to stand in the way of  
14 you letting us know if there's something that you think we  
15 should. Just take a moment and reflect on it. Is there  
16 anything, whether I have asked about it or not? If I didn't,  
17 forgot to mention it earlier that's fine. If there's anything  
18 at all that you have not discussed with me that you think  
19 would have any effect on you've ability to be fair and  
20 completely impartial to both sides in this case? If so,  
21 please, raise your hand.

22 Okay.

23 So here is what we're going to do next. This is  
24 going to take us a little while. I want to spend a couple of  
25 moments with each of you. We'll pass around the microphone.

1 I'm going to ask you several questions. Let me tell you what  
2 I am looking for and what I am not. I'll ask you where you  
3 live. I don't need your address. I want to know what town or  
4 neighborhood you are in now and also going back ten years,  
5 tell me that as well. Things you do for work, what do you do  
6 now. You don't have to tell me the precise company. I want  
7 to know what kind of work you do, who you do it for, your own  
8 company, someone else. Again going back ten years, what else  
9 you have done. I'll ask you how far you have gone in school.  
10 I'll ask you about family that you live with and some people  
11 live with people who are not family. Who are the adults that  
12 you share a home with? What do they do for work? If you have  
13 children, whether they live with you or not. Please tell me  
14 how many you have, their ages, what they are doing for work.  
15 I'll ask you about any hobbies, interests you like to pursue  
16 in your free time, if you belong to any organizations, civic,  
17 church, social, political, whatever it is, let us know the  
18 organizations that you devote your time to, if you have a  
19 leadership role in that. I'll also ask you about any prior  
20 jury service, federal or state, civil or criminal, grand jury  
21 as well. I'll ask about all those things.

22 The one thing I won't ask you about, if you have  
23 been on a jury, what your verdict was. I want to know if you  
24 reached a verdict. I don't want to know what the verdict was  
25 because that wouldn't tell us anything useful at all. You

1 don't need to tell us that. Let's start with Mr. Diaz. Tell  
2 us where you live, please.

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Massapequa Park, New York,  
4 Nassau County.

5 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Ten years.

7 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Long Island Rail Road.

9 THE COURT: What do you do for them?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Ticket sales.

11 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 20 plus years.

13 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Associate's, business.

15 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
16 live with?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My wife.

18 THE COURT: Who does she do for work?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: She works for the railroad  
20 as well.

21 THE COURT: Doing what?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Strategic investments.

23 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have one.

25 THE COURT: Tell us about your child.

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He's 28 years old.

2 THE COURT: What does he do for work?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He works in the hospital.

4 THE COURT: A physician, a nurse?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Central sterile they call  
6 it.

7 THE COURT: Is that a support staff role?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

9 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
10 you like to pursue?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just the gym. That's about  
12 it.

13 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

15 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

17 THE COURT: Tell us about that.

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Mineola, I don't remember if  
19 it was federal.

20 THE COURT: Probably state court. What kind of case  
21 was it?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: What would I call it?

23 THE COURT: Was it a crime?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

25 THE COURT: And do you remember what the crime was?

1 You don't have to come up with precise names. Generally what  
2 it was about?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just perversions.

4 THE COURT: Did you deliberate with your fellow  
5 jurors and reach a verdict?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I did.

7 THE COURT: Anything about that experience that  
8 would affect your ability to be fair here?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

10 THE COURT: If you are selected for the jury, as a  
11 juror, would you keep an open mind, listen to all of the  
12 evidence and give us a fair verdict?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Absolutely.

14 THE COURT: Pass the microphone to Ms. Rudolph. Good  
15 morning. Sorry. Good afternoon. Tell us where you live.

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: In Kew Garden Hills.

17 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Fifteen years.

19 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work in a bank.

21 THE COURT: Doing what?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Bank teller.

23 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 20 years.

25 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Associate's.

2 THE COURT: In what subject.

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Accounting.

4 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
5 live with?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My husband.

7 THE COURT: What does he do for work?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He's an accountant.

9 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

11 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I like to play tennis,  
13 swimming, shopping.

14 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

16 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. Grand jury, eight years  
18 ago, for six months.

19 THE COURT: As I'm sure you understand, a grand jury  
20 has a very different role in our system. They consider  
21 evidence just from one side and that evidence may or may not  
22 later come up at trial. It's basically deciding if there's  
23 enough to move on to a trial. Very different than what I  
24 explained earlier. In a jury trial the government has to meet  
25 a higher standard of proof and both sides participate. Would

1 you have any difficulty adapting to the standard at a jury  
2 trial?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

4 THE COURT: Anything about your experience on the  
5 grand jury that would affect your ability to be fair here?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

7 THE COURT: And if you are selected as a juror will  
8 you keep an open mind and listen to all the evidence and give  
9 us a fair verdict?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

11 THE COURT: Pass the microphone on next to  
12 Ms. Harriott.

13 Tell us where you live.

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Ozone Park for 25 years.

15 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A legal secretary.

17 THE COURT: How long have you been at your position?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: At this firm a year. I have  
19 been a legal secretary 30 years.

20 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Associate's.

22 THE COURT: In what?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Computer science.

24 THE COURT: Do you have friends or family that you  
25 live with?



1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Two elderly parents that  
2 live with me.

3 THE COURT: What do they?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: They are retired.

5 THE COURT: From doing what?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My father was in insurance  
7 and my mother was a homemaker.

8 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Two sons. They are out of  
10 home.

11 THE COURT: What do they do?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: One is a mortgage broker and  
13 the other one is a still trying to figure it out.

14 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
15 you like to pursue?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just I like to bowl.

17 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

19 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I believe it was 2005.  
21 The last couple of times I was called but my number never came  
22 up.

23 THE COURT: In 2005 you were on a jury?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. It was a criminal  
25 case.

1 THE COURT: Do you remember what the crime was?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A battery.

3 THE COURT: Did you deliberate with your fellow  
4 jurors and reach a verdict?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

6 THE COURT: Anything about that experience that  
7 would affect your ability to be fair here?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not at all.

9 THE COURT: If you are selected as a juror in this  
10 case would you keep an open mind and give us a fair verdict?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

12 THE COURT: Mr. Figuieredo, where do you live,  
13 please?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Bed Stuy, Brooklyn.

15 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Three years.

17 THE COURT: Going back ten years, where else did you  
18 live?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Greenpoint, Brooklyn and  
20 Sunset Park.

21 THE COURT: And what do you do for work?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work for a production  
23 company.

24 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Eight years.

1 THE COURT: And anything else that you have been  
2 doing in the last ten years?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Workwise, not really.

4 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Bachelors.

6 THE COURT: In what subject?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Cinema studies.

8 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
9 live with?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live with my wife and two  
11 children.

12 THE COURT: What does your wife do for work?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: She is a therapist.

14 THE COURT: How old are your children?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: The boy is one and the girl  
16 two.

17 THE COURT: You don't get any sleep. I understand.  
18 Would you be able to stay up and pay attention?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

20 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies that you like to  
21 pursue?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I play soccer and watch  
23 movies and do film making personal projects.

24 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

1 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

3 THE COURT: If you are selected for this case, will  
4 you keep an open mind and listen to all the evidence and  
5 give us a fair verdict?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Pass the microphone to Ms. Vance Burke.  
8 Where do you live?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Beachhurst, Queens.

10 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 21 years.

12 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: New York City Department of  
14 Education.

15 THE COURT: What's your role there?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Teaching assistant.

17 THE COURT: How long have you lived there?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Fourteen years.

19 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: BA in English.

21 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
22 live with?

23 THE WITNESS: My husband.

24 THE COURT: What does he do for work?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He's an attorney.

1 THE COURT: You mentioned that earlier. Do you have  
2 any children?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Tell us about them, please.

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have two kids away at  
6 college.

7 THE COURT: Boys or girls, how old?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: They are twins; they are  
9 sophomores.

10 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests you  
11 like to pursue?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Nothing in particular.

13 THE COURT: Belong to any organizations?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

15 THE COURT: Give us a sense how you like to fill  
16 your free time.

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a little time now  
18 that the kids are away. I was sick so I kind of been getting  
19 back.

20 THE COURT: We wish you a speedy recovery. Do you  
21 belong to any organizations?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

23 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

25 THE COURT: If you are selected as a juror in this

1 case will you keep an open mind and listen to all the evidence  
2 and give us a fair verdict?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Pass the microphone to Mr. Thomas.  
5 Where you live?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Flatbush, Brooklyn.

7 THE COURT: How long have you lived there?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 33 years.

9 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm a maintenance porter, 32  
11 BJ union.

12 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Three years.

14 THE COURT: Going back ten years what other kind of  
15 work did you do?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yellow cab driver. I sold  
17 cars for three years.

18 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Automotive trade school  
20 certificate.

21 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
22 live with?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My mother and father and  
24 brother.

25 THE COURT: What do they do for work?

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My father is in boiler  
2 operation and my brother doesn't work.

3 THE COURT: Your mom?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: She's a housewife.

5 THE COURT: Do you have any children of your own?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

7 THE COURT: Do you have any hobbies?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I like to travel.

9 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

11 THE COURT: Have you ever served on a jury before?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

13 THE COURT: If you are selected as a juror in this  
14 case can you keep an open mind and listen to all the evidence  
15 and give us a fair verdict?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR; yes.

17 THE COURT: Mr. Bashir, tell us where you liver?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Kings County.

19 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Twelve years.

21 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Director of operations for a  
23 home automations company.

24 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Over 20 years.

1 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: High school.

3 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
4 live with?

5 THE WITNESS: My wife and two kids.

6 THE COURT: What does your wife do for work?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Homemaker.

8 THE COURT: Your kids, boys or girls?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Boys, five and ten.

10 THE COURT: No jobs yet?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not yet. They are working  
12 on it.

13 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
14 you like to pursue?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: More than I have time for.  
16 I'm a historian; I do drone flying. Do the two together when  
17 I can.

18 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Boy Scouts of America.

20 THE COURT: Have you had any kind of leadership role  
21 there?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Cub master, commissioner,  
23 trainer.

24 THE COURT: Have you served on jury before?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.



1 THE COURT: If you are selected as a juror for this  
2 case can you keep an open mind and listen to the evidence and  
3 give us a fair verdict?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

5 THE COURT: Pass the microphone to Mr. Patrick.  
6 Good afternoon. Tell us where you live.

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

8 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 53 years.

10 THE COURT: And what do you do for work?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I teach training and  
12 support, IT.

13 THE COURT: For your own company?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: For the City of New York.

15 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: For the city for ten years  
17 and overall about 25.

18 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Bachelors in English. It  
20 makes no sense to me either.

21 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
22 live with?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My sister and I own a house  
24 in Williamsburg. Her and her family live upstairs.

25 THE COURT: What does your wife do for work?

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No one really knows, some  
2 sort of biostatistics.

3 THE COURT: I have a brother in computer science and  
4 I have no idea what he does either. Do you have any children?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't.

6 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have.

8 THE COURT: What kind of case?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Burglary.

10 THE COURT: Was that state court?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I assume so.

12 THE COURT: Do you remember how long ago that was?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: About 20 years.

14 THE COURT: Did you deliberate and reach verdict?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I did.

16 THE COURT: Was there anything about that experience  
17 that would affect your ability to be fair?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't believe so.

19 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury would  
20 you keep an open mind and listen to all the evidence and give  
21 us a fair verdict?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: To the best of my ability.

23 THE COURT: Mr. Wilson, tell us where you live,  
24 please.

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Levittown, New York.

1 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 22 years.

3 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'll an aide in a physical  
5 therapy office.

6 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that work?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Six months.

8 THE COURT: Going back ten years what else have you  
9 done?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Been in school, just got out  
11 of college.

12 THE COURT: How far did you go to in school?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Bachelors in science.

14 THE COURT: Do you have any family or friends that  
15 you live with?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: With my mom and dad.

17 THE COURT: What do they do for work?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My father is an investment  
19 banker and my mom is a bank teller.

20 THE COURT: Do you have any children of your own?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

22 THE COURT: Do you have any hobbies or interests  
23 that you like to pursue?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I like sports.

25 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

2 THE COURT: Mr. Bashir, I forgot to ask you this  
3 question. Do you have any hobbies?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I do.

5 THE COURT: Tell us please.

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Gym and martial arts.

7 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No organizations.

9 THE COURT: Give the microphone back to Mr. Wilson.  
10 Do you belong to any organizations?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

12 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before.

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

14 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury would  
15 you keep an open mind and listen to all the evidence and give  
16 us a fair verdict?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

18 THE COURT: Pass the microphone to Mr. Honig. Where  
19 do you live?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Nassau County.

21 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm a retired New York City  
23 school teacher.

24 THE COURT: How long were you teaching?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 25 years.

1 THE COURT: How far did you go to school yourself?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Masters degree.

3 THE COURT: In teaching or education?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

5 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
6 live with?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live with my husband.

8 THE COURT: What does he do?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He's retired. He was an  
10 inventory clerk.

11 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I do.

13 THE COURT: Tell us about them.

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have two sons. One is an  
15 English teacher the other one is an attorney and I have six  
16 grandchildren.

17 THE COURT: And do you have hobbies that you like to  
18 pursue?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I do. I injured my knee  
20 this weekend. I can't do my hobbies. I do Zumba, weight  
21 training and I'm in a bowling league.

22 THE COURT: That's on hold for now. Do you belong  
23 to any organizations?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

25 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

2 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury will  
3 you keep an open mind and listen to all the evidence and give  
4 us a fair verdict?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Bosco, tell us where you live,  
7 please.

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Staten Island, New York.

9 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Since I was two.

11 THE COURT: Tell us what you do for work?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work for Yelp.com.

13 THE COURT: What do you do.

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am an account executive.

15 THE COURT: Allowing have you been doing that.

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Two years.

17 THE COURT: Going back ten years what else have you  
18 done?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Bar back, busboy, cleaner  
20 for the Board of Education. That's about it. Stop and Shop.

21 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: BA.

23 THE COURT: In what?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: History.

25 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you

1 live with?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, my mother, father,  
3 sister.

4 THE COURT: What do they do for work?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My mother is a retired New  
6 York City principal; my father is retired from ATF; my sister  
7 is a New York City teacher currently.

8 THE COURT: Do you have children?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

10 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
11 you like to pursue?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I like to snow board.  
13 I like to play softball. I like to bowl. Bunch of stuff.

14 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

16 THE COURT: Tell us about those?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have been a coach for the  
18 Catholic Youth Organization.

19 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

21 THE COURT: If you are selected as a juror in this  
22 case, will you keep an open mind and listen to all the  
23 evidence and give us a fair verdict?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Definitely.

25 THE COURT: Mr. Clara, tell us where you live,

1 please.

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Bay Ridge, Brooklyn.

3 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Eight years.

5 THE COURT: Anywhere else in the last ten years?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Marine Park where I grew up.

7 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work at a Japanese bank in  
9 the city. I'm a credit administrator.

10 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Since 2012.

12 THE COURT: Anything else in the last ten years in  
13 terms of work?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I worked for American Lawyer  
15 Media which is a magazine placing legal notices when companies  
16 form LLP's and stuff like that.

17 (Continued on next page.)

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Jury Selection

105

1 (continuing)

2 THE COURT: And how far did you go in school?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Bachelor's in English.

4 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
5 live with?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My girlfriend.

7 THE COURT: What does she do?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: She works in advertising.

9 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

11 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests you  
12 like to pursue?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm a musician, play in a  
14 band, drums.

15 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

17 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, sir.

19 THE COURT: If you're selected for this jury, will  
20 you keep an open as to all of the evidence and give us a fair  
21 verdict?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

23 THE COURT: Pass the microphone to Mr. Hernandez in  
24 the back row.

25 Good afternoon, sir. Tell us where you live.

Jury Selection

106

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Sunset Park.

2 THE COURT: How long have you been in Sunset Park?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Nine years.

4 THE COURT: And where were you before that?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Before that, I've been in  
6 Mexico.

7 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I paint houses and  
9 apartments.

10 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that.

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Past three years.

12 THE COURT: Do you have your own business?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, I do with my brother.

14 THE COURT: I see. Before you were doing that work,  
15 going back ten years, what other kinds of work have you done?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: You are talking about work?

17 THE COURT: Yes.

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was a busboy and I do some  
19 freelance work for development.

20 THE COURT: And how far did you go in school?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Associates's.

22 THE COURT: What subject?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Liberal arts.

24 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
25 live with?

Jury Selection

107

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, my mother, brother and  
2 my sister.

3 THE COURT: What do they do for work?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My brother is construction  
5 worker. My mom, she is a babysitter and my sister clean  
6 houses.

7 THE COURT: Do you have any children of your own?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

9 THE COURT: Do you have any hobbies or interests  
10 that you like to do?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, I like computers and I  
12 play around with computers, stuff like that, and I play  
13 soccer.

14 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

16 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

18 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury, will  
19 you keep an open mind and listen to all of the evidence and  
20 give us a fair verdict?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

22 THE COURT: Great. If you can pass the microphone  
23 on to Ms. Fletcher-Lewis. Tell us where you live, please.

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Troy Avenue.

25 THE COURT: What neighborhood is that?

Jury Selection

108

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It's like Flatbush.

2 THE COURT: Okay. How long have you been there?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Like 25 years.

4 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't work. I used to  
6 woke for Maimonides, but I got injured on the job, so I'm on  
7 compensation.

8 THE COURT: I see. And what did you do for  
9 Maimonides?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Patient-care technician.

11 THE COURT: How long were you in that job?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Like three -- four months.  
13 After four months, I get my back injured and I was home until  
14 now from '06.

15 THE COURT: From '06?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: '06.

17 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: High school in Barbados.

19 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
20 live with?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My husband and my daughter.

22 THE COURT: What do they do for work?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My husband works for  
24 Woodhull Hospital, assistant analyst, and my daughter is in  
25 her first year college.

Jury Selection

109

1 THE COURT: And are there any other children --

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a son in Barbados.  
3 He's a clerk for the transport board.

4 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
5 you like to pursue?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I like traveling.

7 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

9 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

11 THE COURT: Tell me about that, please. What kind  
12 of case was it?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It was a crime.

14 THE COURT: Do you remember what crime?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Someone shoot someone, a guy  
16 shoot some other guy.

17 THE COURT: Did you deliberate with the fellow  
18 jurors and reach a verdict?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I did.

20 THE COURT: Anything about that experience that  
21 would affect your ability to be fair?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

23 THE COURT: If you are selected for this case, will  
24 you keep an open mind and listen to all of the evidence and  
25 give us a fair verdict?

Jury Selection

110

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

2 THE COURT: Wonderful. If you could please pass the  
3 microphone on to Mr. Hammer.

4 Good afternoon, sir. Tell us where you live,  
5 please.

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: South Richmond Hill.

7 THE COURT: That's in Staten Island?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: South Richmond Hill in  
9 Queens.

10 THE COURT: How long have you lived there?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: About two years.

12 THE COURT: And going back ten years, where else did  
13 you --

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Forest Hills.

15 THE COURT: And what do you do for work?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Retired from the New York  
17 City Housing Department. I was there for about 36 years  
18 total.

19 THE COURT: What were you doing there?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Involved in planning for  
21 affordable housing development.

22 THE COURT: And how far did you go in school?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Master's degree in urban  
24 planning.

25 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you

Jury Selection

111

1 live with?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My wife.

3 THE COURT: What does she do for work?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Personal service. She works  
5 for family. She does cooking and those kinds of things.

6 THE COURT: Forgive me. Do you have children?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Two step kids.

8 THE COURT: Are they grown and out of the house?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

10 THE COURT: What do they do?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: The son does computer work.

12 The daughter works for the State Court system. She does  
13 research.

14 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
15 you like to pursue?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Sports, travel.

17 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

19 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I did.

21 THE COURT: Tell me what kind of case it was.

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Criminal case, Queens  
23 County, about nine years ago and we did reach a verdict.

24 THE COURT: Uh-hum. I thought you were going to say  
25 there was another one.

Jury Selection

112

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, that was it.

2 THE COURT: Was there anything about that experience  
3 that would affect your ability to be fair?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

5 THE COURT: If you're selected as a juror in this  
6 case, will you keep an open mind and listen to all of the  
7 evidence and give us a fair verdict?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

9 THE COURT: All right. Let's pass the microphone  
10 next to Ms. Taylor. Good afternoon. Tell us where you live,  
11 please.

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Prospect Heights.

13 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Two years.

15 THE COURT: And going back ten years, where else did  
16 you live?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Brooklyn Heights and the  
18 Lower East Side.

19 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I own an event marketing  
21 company.

22 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Ten years.

24 THE COURT: And how far did you go in school?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Bachelor in communications



Jury Selection

113

1 and sociology.

2 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
3 live with?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just my husband.

5 THE COURT: What does he do for work?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He's a digital marketing  
7 director at a non-profit.

8 THE COURT: Do you have children?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

10 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
11 you like to --

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. Travel, music and  
13 theatre.

14 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I do. The Jackie Robinson  
16 Foundation.

17 THE COURT: Do you have any kind of leadership role  
18 with them?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am the Northeast Regional  
20 coordinator for the Alumni Association.

21 THE COURT: Forgive me for not knowing, but what is  
22 the mission of that organization?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Sure. It was founded by  
24 Jackie Robinson's widow. It is a scholarship program for  
25 national college students and then we have very involved

Jury Selection

114

1 alumni association.

2 THE COURT: And have you served on an injury before?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Tell me what kind of case.

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: An assault case.

6 THE COURT: How long about?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: About six or seven years  
8 ago.

9 THE COURT: Did you reach a verdict?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

11 THE COURT: Anything about that experience that  
12 would affect your ability to be fair?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

14 THE COURT: And if you're selected for this jury,  
15 will you keep an open mind and listen to all of the evidence  
16 and reach a fair verdict?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

18 THE COURT: If you could pass the microphone to Ms.  
19 Williams.

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Hi.

21 THE COURT: Tell us where you live, please.

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Jamaica, New York.

23 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Almost 21 years.

25 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

Jury Selection

115

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work for the New York City  
2 Human Resources Administration.

3 THE COURT: What do you do there?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right now, I'm there  
5 personal liaison.

6 THE COURT: And how long have you been working for  
7 them?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A lifetime. 37 years.

9 THE COURT: And how far did you go in school?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A Bachelor's in urban  
11 studies.

12 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
13 live with?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I do. I live with my mom,  
15 my husband, and my younger son, who is back and forth in  
16 school, and I have three other older kids.

17 THE COURT: What do the other adults in the home who  
18 are working do and what does your husband do?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: OKAY. My husband is  
20 self-employed. He does custom-made vertical blinds. My mom  
21 is retired.

22 My youngest son who is home is a college student at  
23 Stony Brook. He's home for this semester. He's doing an  
24 internship for a photography company.

25 My oldest son is a videographer who is now in

Jury Selection

116

1 Vancouver.

2 I have a daughter who works for New York City  
3 housing, and another daughter who works for a medical billing  
4 company.

5 THE COURT: Okay. Do you have hobbies or interests  
6 that you like to pursue?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I want to retire. That's  
8 what's on my mind right now.

9 THE COURT: How do you spend your time, if you have  
10 any?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Crocheting, relaxing.

12 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I do not.

14 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have.

16 THE COURT: Tell me about that, please.

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I served on a grand jury for  
18 28 days and then I also served on civil matter, I think it was  
19 age discrimination. After jury selection, they settled out of  
20 court.

21 THE COURT: And with respect to the grand jury, you  
22 have heard me say earlier today how that's a very different  
23 process.

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

25 THE COURT: Would you have any difficulty putting

Jury Selection

117

1 aside that experience and following the rules for a jury  
2 trial?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, not at all.

4 THE COURT: Anything about either of the experiences  
5 that you mentioned with juries, with either the grand jury or  
6 the civil matter, that would affect your ability to be fair  
7 here?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

9 THE COURT: And if you are selected for this jury,  
10 will you keep an open mind and listen to all of the evidence  
11 and give us a fair verdict?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Absolutely.

13 THE COURT: Pass the microphone on next to Ms.  
14 Morris.

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Hi.

16 THE COURT: Tell us where you live, please.

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Merrick, New York.

18 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 22 years.

20 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work at Make a Wish. I'm  
22 the wish assist coordinator.

23 THE COURT: So you match --

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I plan and coordinate wishes  
25 for children.

Jury Selection

118

1 THE COURT: Wonderful. How long have you been doing  
2 that?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Six months.

4 THE COURT: Going back ten years, what else have you  
5 been doing?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I graduated college in May.  
7 I lived in Bloomington, Indiana. I got my Bachelor's in human  
8 development and family studies.

9 THE COURT: And do you have family or friends that  
10 you live with?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. I live with my  
12 parents and younger brother.

13 THE COURT: What do the adults, what do they do for  
14 work?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My dad works in sales for an  
16 eyewear company. My mom stays at home and sometimes babysits.  
17 And my brother is a sophomore at Adelphi studying criminal  
18 justice and he is a volunteer fireman.

19 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

21 THE COURT: Do you have any hobbies or interests  
22 that you like to pursue?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Spending time with family,  
24 friends, traveling.

25 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

Jury Selection

119

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

2 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

4 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury, will  
5 you keep an open mind and listen to all of the evidence and  
6 give us a fair verdict?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

8 THE COURT: Pass the microphone next to the front  
9 row.

10 Let me tell you, folks, where we are headed. I  
11 would normally try to give you a lunch break pretty soon, but  
12 I'm hopeful that if we stick with it, we can get most of you  
13 out the door and done with this case before we take a lunch  
14 break. So we're going to push through. I hope that's okay  
15 with you because that's what I plan to do.

16 Let's pass the microphone next to Ms. Marando. If I  
17 can trouble you to stand up because I can barely see you over  
18 that podium.

19 Tell us where you live, please.

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Staten Island, New York.

21 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 18 years.

23 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm a cook at a school.

25 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

Jury Selection

120

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: About two years.

2 THE COURT: Going back ten years, what other type of  
3 work have you done?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was a stay-at-home mom.

5 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: High school.

7 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
8 live with?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My husband and two sons.

10 THE COURT: What do they all do for work?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My husband is retired from  
12 construction and my son, one is in college and the other is a  
13 manager in a pharmacy.

14 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
15 you like to pursue?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not much. I have a book  
17 club that I go to.

18 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

20 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

22 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury, will  
23 you keep an open mind and listen to all of the evidence and  
24 give us a fair verdict?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.



Jury Selection

121

1 THE COURT: That's wonderful.

2 Pass the microphone to Mr. Ng.

3 Good afternoon, sir. Tell us where you live,  
4 please.

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Flushing, Queens.

6 THE COURT: How long have you been in Flushing?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: All my life, 32 years.

8 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am a custodian for DOE.

10 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that work?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: On and off for about 12  
12 years.

13 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Bachelor's in sociology.

15 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
16 live with?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My parents.

18 THE COURT: What do they do for work?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My father is handyman at the  
20 same school and my mother is a school aide at another public  
21 school.

22 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

24 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
25 you like to pursue?

Jury Selection

122

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I like to play basketball.

2 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

4 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

6 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury, will  
7 you keep an open mind and listen to all of the evidence and  
8 give us a fair verdict?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

10 THE COURT: Thank you. If you could pass the  
11 microphone next to Ms. Cruz. Good afternoon. Tell us where  
12 you live, please.

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

14 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Ten years.

16 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm an account manager for  
18 an HVAC company, a management company.

19 THE COURT: You did mention that quite a while ago.  
20 How long have you been doing that?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 15 years.

22 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Bachelor's.

24 THE COURT: What subject?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Criminology.

Jury Selection

123

1 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
2 live with?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. My husband and my son.

4 THE COURT: What do they do for work?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My husband works for Local  
6 3, electrician. My son is four. He is in pre-K.

7 THE COURT: Do you have any hobbies or interests  
8 that you like to pursue?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I like to go to the gym. I  
10 like to watch basketball.

11 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

13 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I did.

15 THE COURT: Tell me about that, please.

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It was ten years ago in  
17 Queens. I think it was civil.

18 THE COURT: Do you remember what the dispute was  
19 about?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: An MTA bus driver hit  
21 someone.

22 THE COURT: I see. Did you deliberate and reach a  
23 verdict?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

25 THE COURT: Anything about that experience that

Jury Selection

124

1 would affect your ability to be fair here?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

3 THE COURT: And if you're selected as a juror in  
4 this case, will you keep an open mind, listen to all of the  
5 evidence and give us a fair verdict?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Wonderful. Going to Ms. Giordano.  
8 Good afternoon, ma'am. Tell us where you live, please.

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Cobble Hill, Brooklyn.

10 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 30 years.

12 THE COURT: And what do you do for work?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I underwrite insurance for  
14 an insurance company.

15 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: About 25 years.

17 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a J.D.

19 THE COURT: We talked about your legal studies  
20 earlier.

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-hum.

22 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
23 live with?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live with my husband.

25 THE COURT: What does he do for work?

Jury Selection

125

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He's an attorney.

2 THE COURT: What kind of practice does he have?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He has an insurance defense  
4 firm.

5 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Two children, freshman in  
7 junior and college.

8 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
9 you like to pursue?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Travel, reading.

11 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

13 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

15 THE COURT: If you are selected for this case, will  
16 you keep an open mind, listen to all of the evidence and give  
17 us a fair verdict?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Let's pass the microphone next to Ms.  
20 Hague. Good afternoon, ma'am.

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Good afternoon.

22 THE COURT: Where do you live?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Borough Park, Brooklyn.

24 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: About 12 years.

Jury Selection

126

1 THE COURT: And what do you do for work.

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm a biomedical research  
3 internet for Weill Cornell Medicine.

4 THE COURT: And for how long have you been doing  
5 that?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A year.

7 THE COURT: Going back ten years, what else have you  
8 been doing for work?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Before I worked as a retail  
10 customer associate.

11 THE COURT: Okay. And how far did you go in school?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Recently a master's degree  
13 candidate at Weill Cornell Medicine.

14 THE COURT: And in what subject?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Health infomatics.

16 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
17 live with?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live with my parents.

19 THE COURT: What do they do for work?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My mom is a housewife. My  
21 dad is a taxi driver.

22 THE COURT: Do you have children of your own?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

24 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
25 you like to pursue?

Jury Selection

127

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Reading, shopping,  
2 traveling.

3 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

5 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

7 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury, will  
8 you keep an open mind, listen to all of the evidence and reach  
9 a fair verdict?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

11 THE COURT: Wonderful. Let's turn next to --

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Mr. Dunford.

13 THE COURT: Thank you. Mr. Dunford, tell us where  
14 you live, please.

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live in Jackson Heights,  
16 Queens.

17 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: About 34 years.

19 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right now I'm unemployed,  
21 but I used to do be an IT manager for a retail fashion  
22 company.

23 THE COURT: And going back ten years, what other  
24 kinds of jobs have you had?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Stock management. Before

Jury Selection

128

1 that, I worked for retail stores.

2 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have about two years of  
4 college, but I didn't finish.

5 THE COURT: Did you have a major?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was doing film.

7 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
8 live with?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. I live with my parent  
10 and my brother.

11 THE COURT: What do they all do for work?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My dad's an accountant. My  
13 mom is retired and she used to work at a dry cleaners and my  
14 brother is a bartender.

15 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

17 THE COURT: Do you have any hobbies or interests  
18 that you like to pursue?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Computer games.

20 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

22 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

24 THE COURT: If you are selected as a juror in this  
25 case, will you keep an open mind, listen to all of the



Jury Selection

129

1 evidence and reach a fair verdict?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

3 THE COURT: All right. Let's pass the microphone on  
4 next to Mr. Masch.

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

6 THE COURT: Tell us where you live, please.

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Smithtown, Suffolk.

8 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 11 years.

10 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: IT security for a financial  
12 company.

13 THE COURT: And how long have you been doing that?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: About 20 years.

15 THE COURT: And how far did you go in school?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Associate's engineering.

17 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
18 live with?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. A wife and two kids.

20 THE COURT: What do they all do for work?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My wife just started doing  
22 substitute.

23 THE COURT: Okay. And your boys?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: They're 13 and 11.

25 THE COURT: Do you have any hobbies or interests

Jury Selection

130

1 that you like to pursue?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Fishing, woodworking.

3 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

5 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Probably about 15 years ago.

7 THE COURT: What kind of case was it?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It was a car accident, but

9 they ended up reaching a settlement.

10 (Continued on following page.)

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Jury Selection

131

1 (Continuing.)

2 THE COURT: So you never are reached a verdict?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Correct.

4 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury will  
5 you keep an open mind, listen to all of the evidence, and give  
6 us a fair verdict?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

8 THE COURT: So let's pass the microphone on to  
9 Ms. Ray.

10 Tell us where you live, please.

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live in downtown Brooklyn.

12 THE COURT: And how long have you been there?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I've been there for two  
14 years.

15 THE COURT: And where else did you live?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was on the upper eastside,  
17 and then part of that in Texas, in the Dallas area and  
18 Lubbock.

19 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am a product manager for a  
21 data platform for an underwriting company.

22 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that work?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I've been doing that for two  
24 years, but being a product manager for a data engineering team  
25 for seven for different start-ups.

Jury Selection

132

1 THE COURT: Any other jobs in the last ten years?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was in consulting right  
3 out of school.

4 THE COURT: Okay. And how far did you go in school?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a Bachelor's degree  
6 in accounting.

7 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
8 live with?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live with my husband.

10 THE COURT: What does he do for work?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He is a software engineer.

12 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

14 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
15 you like to pursue?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just television and work.

17 THE COURT: And do you belong to any organizations?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am heavily involved in the  
19 alumni association of my college.

20 THE COURT: And have you had a leadership role with  
21 that group?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am the vice president.

23 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I was an alternate  
25 juror for a civil trial about two years ago.

Jury Selection

133

1 THE COURT: Now, as an alternate, did you stay for  
2 deliberations?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I did not, I was dismissed.

4 THE COURT: Anything about that experience that  
5 would affect your ability to serve fairly here?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

7 THE COURT: And if you are selected for this trial  
8 will you keep an open mind, listen to all of the evidence and  
9 give us a fair verdict?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

11 THE COURT: Wonderful. Pass the microphone on next  
12 to Ms. Woods.

13 Good afternoon, ma'am.

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Good afternoon.

15 THE COURT: Tell us where you live, please.

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live in Jamaica, New York.

17 THE COURT: How long have you been in Jamaica?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Forty Years.

19 THE COURT: What do you for work?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm a letter carrier for the  
21 United States Postal Service.

22 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Twenty-two Years.

24 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: High school, some college.

Jury Selection

134

1 THE COURT: Did you have a major in college?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, nursing.

3 THE COURT: Do you family or friends that you live  
4 with?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes; my mom, my brother and  
6 a son.

7 THE COURT: And what do they all do for work?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My mom is a homemaker. My  
9 brother is disabled. And my son attends high school.

10 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests you  
11 like to pursue?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Cooking and gardening.

13 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

15 THE COURT: And have you served on a jury before?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

17 THE COURT: Tell me about that, please.

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It was grand jury about  
19 seven years ago maybe.

20 THE COURT: Would you have any difficulty adapting  
21 to the different rules for a trial jury?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

23 THE COURT: Okay. Anything about your grand jury  
24 experience that would affect your ability to be fair here?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

Jury Selection

135

1 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury, will  
2 you keep an open mind, listen to all of the evidence, and give  
3 us a fair verdict?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

5 THE COURT: Wonderful. If you can, please pass the  
6 microphone to Mr. Sabine.

7 Good afternoon, sir. Tell us where you live,  
8 please.

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: East Flatbush.

10 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I didn't hear you.

12 THE COURT: How long have you lived there?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 40 years, 40 years.

14 THE COURT: And what do you do for work?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Sanitation, New York City.

16 THE COURT: You're trash collector?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Huh?

18 THE COURT: Are you a collector or something else?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, a collector.

20 THE COURT: Oh, thank you. How long have you been  
21 doing that work?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Twenty-three years.

23 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: High school.

25 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you

Jury Selection

136

1 live with?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just my wife.

3 THE COURT: And what does she do for work?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: She is a school aid.

5 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

7 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests you  
8 like to pursue?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Some singing, music.

10 THE COURT: Okay. Do you belong --

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Used to play the drums.

12 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-uh, no.

14 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A long time ago.

16 THE COURT: What do you remember about it?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It was a criminal, and they  
18 came to a verdict.

19 THE COURT: And did you deliberate and reach the  
20 verdict?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

22 THE COURT: Anything about that experience that  
23 would affect your ability to be fair here?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think it should.

25 THE COURT: Okay. And if you are selected as a



Jury Selection

137

1 juror, will you keep an open mind, listen to all of the  
2 evidence, and give us a fair verdict?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-hum, yeah.

4 THE COURT: So pass the microphone on next, please,  
5 to Mr. Zarrella.

6 Good afternoon. Tell us where you live, please.

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Staten Island.

8 THE COURT: And how long have you been there?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My whole life, 23 years.

10 THE COURT: And what do you do for work?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm an actuary.

12 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Eight Months.

14 THE COURT: Do you have your own practice or do you  
15 work --

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I work for an analytics  
17 company in Jersey City.

18 THE COURT: Okay. And going back ten years, what  
19 other kind of work did you have?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: This is my first job out of  
21 college.

22 THE COURT: Okay. And how far did you go in school?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Bachelor's in math.

24 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
25 live with?

Jury Selection

138

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My parents.

2 THE COURT: What do they do work for?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My dad's a retired  
4 firefighter, and my mom's been a teacher for the DOE for 25  
5 years.

6 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

8 THE COURT: Do you hobbies or interests you like to  
9 pursue?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Basketball, traveling.

11 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

13 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

15 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury will  
16 you keep an open mind, listen to all of the evidence, and give  
17 us a fair verdict?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Okay, pass the mic down next to Mr. Ng.

20 Good afternoon. Tell us where you live, please.

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Queens, Howard Beach.

22 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: All my life.

24 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm a paraprofessional for a

Jury Selection

139

1 District 75 school.

2 THE COURT: How long have you had that work?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Five Years.

4 THE COURT: What else have you done over the last  
5 ten years?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was a lifeguard for a gym.

7 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Associate's in liberal arts.

9 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
10 live with?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, my parents. My father  
12 is retired and my mother is an office manager.

13 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't.

15 THE COURT: And do you have any hobbies or interests  
16 that you like to pursue?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: For interest, I'm trying to  
18 be a New York State court officer. And for hobbies, I collect  
19 action figures.

20 THE COURT: Do you have an action figure of a judge  
21 like me?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, maybe one day.

23 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

25 THE COURT: Have you ever served on a jury before?

Jury Selection

140

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

2 THE COURT: Tell me about that.

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think it was an injury, a  
4 car accident and they settled before it got to anything.

5 THE COURT: Anything about that experience that  
6 would affect your ability to be fair?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

8 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury will  
9 you keep an open mind, listen to all of the evidence, and give  
10 us a fair verdict?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

12 THE COURT: All right, let's pass the mic on next to  
13 Ms. Brown.

14 Tell us where you live, please.

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live in Borough Park,  
16 Brooklyn.

17 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Forty years.

19 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am a special education  
21 teacher.

22 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Fifteen Years.

24 THE COURT: How far did you go in school yourself?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A master's degree.

Jury Selection

141

1 THE COURT: In education?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: In special education.

3 THE COURT: And do you have family or friends that  
4 you live with?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live with -- we live in a  
6 building, a family building. So I live with my husband and my  
7 mom lives downstairs and my sister and brother-in-law and kids  
8 live upstairs.

9 THE COURT: Tell me about your husband.

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He is a receiving manager at  
11 New York Life.

12 THE COURT: Do you have kids?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, two dogs --

14 THE COURT: Okay.

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: -- which count as kids.

16 THE COURT: But they don't have jobs.

17 Do you have hobbies or interests that you like to  
18 pursue?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just cooking and baking.

20 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

22 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

24 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury will  
25 you keep an open mind, listen to all of the evidence, and give

Jury Selection

142

1 us a fair verdict?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

3 THE COURT: Great. If you could pass the microphone  
4 next to Ms. Whelan.

5 Tell us where you live, please.

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Long Beach, New York.

7 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My whole life.

9 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm a librarian in a high  
11 school.

12 THE COURT: How long have you been do doing that?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Fifteen Years.

14 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Master's degree.

16 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
17 live with?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Tell us about them, please.

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live with my husband who  
21 is a retired New York City detective; one daughter who is a  
22 teacher for the DOE; and my other daughter is at school,  
23 college.

24 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
25 you like to pursue?

Jury Selection

143

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Golfing, reading, travel.

2 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, many library  
4 organizations.

5 THE COURT: Do you have any type of leadership role  
6 in any of those?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: One of them I am.

8 THE COURT: Tell me about that.

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am the president of the  
10 library association.

11 THE COURT: Okay. Have you served on a jury before?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

13 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury will  
14 you keep an open mind, listen to all of the evidence, and give  
15 us a fair verdict?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

17 THE COURT: Okay. Let's pass the microphone on next  
18 to Ms. Parker.

19 Tell us where you live, please.

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live in Williamsburg,  
21 Brooklyn.

22 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thirty years.

24 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am director of an

Jury Selection

144

1 after-school program.

2 THE COURT: For a city school or for private?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, for city school.

4 THE COURT: I see. And how long have you been doing  
5 that?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: About 20 years now.

7 THE COURT: How far did you go in school yourself?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a Master's degree.

9 THE COURT: In what subject?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Public administration.

11 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
12 live with?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

14 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I have one daughter.

16 THE COURT: What does she do?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: She's a medical assistant.

18 THE COURT: Do you hobbies or interests you like to  
19 pursue?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I like to read. I  
21 like to write. I am pursuing my doctorate degree.

22 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

24 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, on a grand jury.



Jury Selection

145

1 THE COURT: And same question I had for the others,  
2 would you have any difficulty adapting to the rules of a jury  
3 trial?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

5 THE COURT: Anything about your grand jury  
6 experience that would make it difficult for you to be fair?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

8 THE COURT: And if you are selected as a juror in  
9 this case, will you keep an open mind, listen to all of the  
10 evidence and give us a fair verdict?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Absolutely.

12 THE COURT: All right, then let's pass the  
13 microphone on next to Mr. Llanes.

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

15 THE COURT: Tell us where you live, please.

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live in Sunset Park,  
17 Brooklyn.

18 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Eight Years.

20 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am a lab technologist at a  
22 hospital lab.

23 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Six years.

25 THE COURT: And what other work have you done over

Jury Selection

146

1 the past ten years?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Retail sales associates at  
3 UPS store.

4 THE COURT: And how far did you go in school?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a Bachelor's of  
6 Science.

7 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
8 live with?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I live with my  
10 parents, my brother and my sister.

11 THE COURT: What do they all do for work?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My dad works in a restaurant  
13 and my mom works in a garment factory.

14 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't.

16 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
17 you like to pursue?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I like to read, watch  
19 television, travel.

20 THE COURT: And do you belong to any organizations?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't.

22 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

24 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury will  
25 you keep an open mind, listen to all of the evidence and give

Jury Selection

147

1 us a fair verdict?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

3 THE COURT: Okay, then let's pass the microphone on  
4 next to Ms. Fuentes.

5 Tell us where you live, please.

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I live in Forest Hills.

7 THE COURT: How long have you lived there?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Five Years.

9 THE COURT: Where else did you live over the last  
10 ten years?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Kew Gardens.

12 THE COURT: What do you do for work?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm an architect.

14 THE COURT: Do you have your own practice or work  
15 for somebody else?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work for someone else.

17 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that work?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Over ten years.

19 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Bachelor in architecture.

21 THE COURT: Do you have family or friends that you  
22 live with?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. I live with my  
24 husband, he's an architect as well; and with my two boys, they  
25 are six and nine years.

Jury Selection

148

1 THE COURT: And do you have hobbies or interests  
2 that you like to pursue?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, I like to practice  
4 yoga and cooking.

5 THE COURT: Do you belong to any organizations?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

7 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

9 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury will  
10 you keep an open mind, listen to all of the evidence, and give  
11 us a fair verdict?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

13 THE COURT: Wonderful. And then finally for now,  
14 Mr. Ramirez, tell us where you live, please.

15 THE WITNESS: Yes, I live in Roslyn Heights, Long  
16 Island.

17 THE COURT: How long have you been there?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Twenty-five Years.

19 THE COURT: What do you for work?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm a computer programmer.

21 THE COURT: And do you have your own business?

22 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I work for a major bank  
23 in Manhattan.

24 THE COURT: How long have you been doing that?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Twenty-five Years.

Jury Selection

149

1 THE COURT: And do you have family or friends that  
2 you live with?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My wife, she's a chemical  
4 engineer; and my father-in-law, who is retired.

5 THE COURT: Do you have any children?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have two daughters, 30 and  
7 26.

8 THE COURT: What do they do for work?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: One is an event planner and  
10 the other is graphic designer.

11 THE COURT: I neglected to ask, how far did you go  
12 in school?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a Master's degree in  
14 computer science.

15 THE COURT: Do you have hobbies or interests that  
16 you like to pursue?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Lots of hobbies, not enough  
18 time.

19 THE COURT: What do you spend your free time on  
20 mostly?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Golf, when I get a chance,  
22 and fixing my house and my mother's house.

23 THE COURT: Okay. Do you belong to any of  
24 organizations?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't.

Jury Selection

150

1 THE COURT: Have you served on a jury before?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Twice, criminal cases.

3 THE COURT: What kind of cases?

4 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Criminal cases.

5 THE COURT: Do you remember what the crimes charged  
6 were in the cases?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: One was drug related, and  
8 the other one was some sort of assault.

9 THE COURT: Okay. And in each of those cases did  
10 you deliberate and reach a verdict?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, we did.

12 THE COURT: Is there anything about either of those  
13 experiences that you think would make it difficult for to be  
14 fair here?

15 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

16 THE COURT: If you are selected for this jury will  
17 you keep an open mind, listen to all of the evidence, and give  
18 us a fair verdict?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Absolutely.

20 THE COURT: Okay.

21 Folks, I am going to ask you to sit tight for a few  
22 minutes. I am going to talk to counsel at the sidebar.

23 MR. STEIN: Mr. Ramirez's neighborhood?

24 THE COURT: What neighborhood?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Roslyn Heights, on Long

## Sidebar

151

1 Island.

2 THE COURT: So, folks, I am going to ask you to just  
3 sit tight. I need to talk to the lawyers at the sidebar here.  
4 It may take a few minutes, but we are getting very close to  
5 the end of our process, so please bear with us.

6 (Sidebar held.)

7 (The following sidebar took place outside the  
8 hearing of the prospective jurors.)

9 THE COURT: All right, folks, let's start with any  
10 challenges for cause.

11 MR. STEIN: Judge, I have some additional questions  
12 to ask.

13 THE COURT: I'll get to that in just a minute. So  
14 far any challenges for cause?

15 MR. STEIN: No.

16 THE COURT: No, okay. Any?

17 MR. SELDEN: None on behalf of the Government.

18 THE COURT: Follow-up.

19 MR. STEIN: Yes, Judge. Judge, Mr. Ng.

20 THE COURT: There are two of them.

21 MR. STEIN: Christopher Ng.

22 THE COURT: Christopher Ng, he's Alternate 2; yes.

23 MR. STEIN: I am trying to read my notes. So, I  
24 believe he said he was applying for a job as a New York City  
25 court officer.

1 THE COURT: Yes.

2 MR. STEIN: I would like to know whether he applied  
3 for a job in the Police Department; and if so, what happened.

4 THE COURT: Okay.

5 MR. STEIN: And Marie Whelan, whose husband is a  
6 retired New York City detective, what was his assignment? I  
7 don't mean just his precinct, but what kind of work did he  
8 investigate.

9 THE COURT: Do you have anything else?

10 MS. FARRELL: No, thanks.

11 MR. STEIN: Just let me see.

12 Judge, the other thing, I don't know whether you  
13 think it's just for Judge Vitaliano, but since everybody in  
14 the world seems to be on social media and Googling, are you  
15 going to say anything to the jurors about not engaging in  
16 that?

17 THE COURT: Once we have selected the jury, as I  
18 give them their instructions between now and tomorrow I will  
19 tell them to stay off social media, but I don't have a long  
20 instruction to give. Mostly, I will defer to Judge Vitaliano.

21 Any other follow-ups?

22 MR. SELDEN: Not on behalf of the Government. Thank  
23 you.

24 THE COURT: If it's all right with you, I am just  
25 going to ask you to do that while we stay here.



Jury Selection

153

1 Do you think we can do it in like 10, 15 minutes?

2 MR. STEIN: I would like to speak to Mr. Farrell and  
3 our client.

4 THE COURT: So we will need to take a lunch break if  
5 we do that.

6 Do you think we can take a short break and do that?

7 MR. STEIN: A short lunch break?

8 THE COURT: No, a short break in a few minutes and  
9 come back, or do you think you need a full lunch break?

10 I do not want to rush you at all. You know what,  
11 let's wait until I do the follow-up.

12 (Sidebar concluded.)

13 (In open court - prospective jurors present.)

14 THE COURT: Folks, just a couple follow-up questions  
15 that I should have asked.

16 Mr. Christopher Ng, because we've got two Mr. Ngs,  
17 you said you applied to be a court officer?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Did you also apply for the police  
20 department?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

22 THE COURT: And, Ms. Whelan, you said your husband  
23 is an officer, a police officer or was.

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

25 THE COURT: What kind of cases did he investigate,

Sidebar

154

1 do you know?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Murder, robberies. He was a  
3 precinct detective, so he got whatever was assigned.

4 THE COURT: Which precinct?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: The 7-5 in East New York.

6 THE COURT: And would his work have any bearing on  
7 your ability to be fair in this case?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think so.

9 THE COURT: Okay, all right, thank you.

10 (Sidebar held.)

11 (The following sidebar took place outside the  
12 hearing of the prospective jurors.)

13 THE COURT: Based on that, any follow-up or  
14 challenges for cause?

15 MR. SELDEN: Not on behalf of the Government.

16 MR. STEIN: Can I have a moment, Judge?

17 THE COURT: Yes.

18 (Pause.)

19 MR. STEIN: Judge, Ms. Whelan, whose husband's a  
20 retired New York City detective, his investigation sounds  
21 similar to what is involved in this case, so I would like to  
22 know whether or not there is anything about what she's heard  
23 about the nature of the charges, given her husband's previous  
24 employment, that may affect her view at all.

25 THE COURT: I think we have a record on that and I

SAM

OCR

RMR

CRR

RPR

Sidebar

155

1 am satisfied that she has understood it and can be fair.

2 I am happy to entertain a challenge for cause, but I  
3 think the record is clear enough.

4 Anything else?

5 MR. SELDEN: Not on behalf of the Government.

6 THE COURT: All right, I don't want to rush you. I  
7 would very much like, if possible, to find a way to not send  
8 everybody to lunch and have them come back, but you tell me.

9 What do you need to do to represent your client?

10 MR. STEIN: Well, we'd like to speak with him. I  
11 don't know how long it is going to take, whether it's short, I  
12 don't know, Judge. I mean, honestly.

13 THE COURT: Here is what I am going to suggest. I  
14 am going to say we send them out for 10 minutes. If you come  
15 back sooner, great, but have them stand by. If you can get  
16 done before a lunch break, great; but if you don't think you  
17 can do it in good conscience, I will send them for a lunch  
18 break then.

19 MR. STEIN: Thanks, Judge.

20 (Sidebar concluded.)

21

22 (Continued on the following page.)

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SAM

OCR

RMR

CRR

RPR

1 (In open court.)

2 THE COURT: Folks, here is what we're going to do:  
3 I have delayed the lunch a long time. I would like to get  
4 through the process entirely before taking an hour plus lunch  
5 break. What we're going to do, the lawyers need some time to  
6 talk to their client. We need the courtroom for that. We're  
7 going to take a ten-minute break and come back. At that point  
8 we'll do the last part of the process which will take a few  
9 minutes or I'll tell you it's not possible and we'll take a  
10 lunch break. We'll try our best to get it done. Take a  
11 ten-minute break. Same instructions as before. Don't talk to  
12 each other. If you see counsel in the corridor, don't talk to  
13 them. Same instructions as before. Ten-minute break.

14 (Jury excused.)

15 THE COURT: All right. I'll be right back.

16 (Recess taken.)

17 (In open court; jury not present.)

18 THE COURT: Excuse me, folks. Can I get your  
19 attention for a moment? We're fifteen minutes into our  
20 ten-minute break. I get the impression that you are all still  
21 working hard. It's probably best to give them a lunch break  
22 and have them come back. Does that make sense?

23 MR. STEIN: That's fine.

24 (Jury present.)

25 THE COURT: All right, folks. So the lawyers are

1 working very hard to get this done so that we can send you  
2 home if you are not going to be on the jury. The truth is  
3 this is something that can't be rushed and we're not going to  
4 get it done before you take a lunch break. I'm going to ask  
5 you to take a lunch break and be back here in the same seats  
6 at 2:30 p.m. and we'll be ready to go to finish up the process  
7 quickly and get those of you who are not staying with us on  
8 your way. For now have a good lunch break. Don't discuss the  
9 case. Don't take offense that those people at the table don't  
10 acknowledge your presence because they can't. I'll see you  
11 all at 2:30 in your seats. Have a good lunch.

12 (Jury excused.)

13 THE COURT: Folks, have a good lunch. If you could  
14 be back here at 2:25 if you need to raise anything with me.

15 (Lunch recess taken.)

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1 AFTERNOON SESSION

2 (In open court; jury not present.)

3 THE COURT: Are we ready to go before we invite  
4 jurors back in?

5 MR. SELDEN: Nothing on behalf of the government.

6 MR. STEIN: No, your Honor.

7 THE COURT: We're ready to come up to sidebar?

8 MR. SELDEN: Yes, your Honor.

9 MR. STEIN: Yes, your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Great.

11 (Jury present.)

12 THE COURT: We're just waiting for one more juror.

13 (Pause.)

14 THE COURT: All right. Welcome back everybody. I  
15 hope you had a good lunch break. We are at what I hope will  
16 be the final stage of our selection procedure. The lawyers  
17 have been working hard over the lunch break. I'm going to ask  
18 you to sit patiently for us. We have some discussion to have  
19 here and we'll be able to wrap up the process.

20 (Sidebar.)

21 THE COURT: All right. The government has the first  
22 strike .

23 MR. SELDEN: Thank you, your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Just remember only strike against the  
25 main pool of 28 for the main jury and then strikes against the

1 second row for the alternate pool. First strike .

2 MR. SELDEN: Your Honor, the government's first  
3 strike, we would move to strike Mr. Seat four, Mr. Figuieredo.

4 THE COURT: Mr. Figuieredo, okay.

5 Defense has the next four strikes.

6 MR. STEIN: The next four?

7 THE COURT: Yes.

8 MR. STEIN: Judge, maybe I'm misreading this or  
9 something worse. I thought it was one, two, one two.

10 THE COURT: One, two, two, one, one. It's all  
11 written down there.

12 MR. STEIN: So one, two, five and nine.

13 THE COURT: So that's Mr. Diaz in seat one. Ms.  
14 Rudolph in seat two; Ms. Vance Burke in seat five and  
15 Mr. Wilson in seat nine.

16 The government has the next two strikes.

17 MR. SELDEN: Thank you, your Honor. Your Honor,  
18 seat 16.

19 THE COURT: Ms. Taylor .

20 MR. SELDEN: Yes, your Honor.

21 And seat 26.

22 THE COURT: Ms. Ray.

23 MR. SELDEN: Thank you, your Honor.

24 THE COURT: All right. Defense has four strikes .

25 MR. STEIN: 13.

1 THE COURT: 13 is Mr. Hernandez.

2 MR. STEIN: 14.

3 THE COURT: Mrs. Fletcher-Lewis

4 MR. STEIN: Seat 19 and 20.

5 THE COURT: 19, Ms. Marando. And 20, Mr. Raymond  
6 Ng.

7 The government has the next two strikes.

8 MR. SELDEN: Thank you, your Honor.

9 Your Honor, we would strike seat 17.

10 THE COURT: Ms. Williams.

11 MR. SELDEN: As well as seat six.

12 THE COURT: Number six, Mr. Khurshid. All right.

13 Defense has the last two strikes against the main panel.

14 MR. FARRELL: The main panel goes up to?

15 THE COURT: Number 28. Basically everybody in the  
16 first row.

17 MR. STEIN: 22 and 28.

18 THE COURT: So number 22 is Ms. Giordano. And  
19 number 28 is Mr. Sabine.

20 THE COURT: And the government has one last strike  
21 against the main panel .

22 MR. SELDEN: Seat eight, please.

23 THE COURT: Number eight, Mr. Patrick.

24 All right. So let's go through who is on our main  
25 panel. It Ms. Harriott in seat three; Mr. Romain in seat



1 seven; Ms. Honig in seat ten; Mr. Bosco in seat eleven;  
2 Mr. Claro in seat twelve; Mr. Hammer in seat 15; Ms. Marks in  
3 seat 18; Ms. Cruz in seat 21. Ms. Haque in seat 23; Mr.  
4 Dunford in seat 24; Mr. Masch in seat 25 and Ms. Woods in seat  
5 27. Does that accord with your notes, folks?

6 MR. STEIN: Yes, your Honor .

7 MR. SELDEN: Yes, your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Let's move on to the alternate panel.  
9 Anyone in that second row?

10 MR. STEIN: We're starting, just to be clear, with  
11 number 29?

12 THE COURT: Yes.

13 The government goes first.

14 MR. SELDEN: Seat 33, please, your Honor.

15 THE COURT: That's Ms. Parker.

16 MR. SELDEN: Yes.

17 THE COURT: Defense has both of its alternate  
18 strikes now.

19 MR. STEIN: 30 and 32.

20 THE COURT: So 30 is Christopher Ng and 32 is Ms.  
21 Whelen.

22 And the government has one last strike against the  
23 alternate pool.

24 MR. SELDEN: Number 35, your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Number 35 is Ms. Fuentes.

1 MR. SELDEN: Thank you, your Honor.

2 THE COURT: All right. So that leaves us our four  
3 alternates, Mr. Zarrella in seat 29; Mrs. Brown in seat 31;  
4 Mr. Zhang in seat 34 and Ms. Ramirez in seat 36. Does that  
5 accord with your notes?

6 MR. STEIN: Yes, your Honor .

7 MR. SELDEN: I believe it does.

8 THE COURT: Thank you all. Before I let you go, do  
9 you know if Judge Vitaliano wants to see them?

10 THE CLERK: He doesn't.

11 THE COURT: Thank you. Have a seat.

12 (Continued on next page.)

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## Jury Selection

163

1 (In open court.)

2 THE COURT: All right. Folks, thank you all for  
3 your patience. First of all, I am going to announce the  
4 members of your jury in just a moment. If you hear your name,  
5 I am going to ask you to stay. If you don't, I am going to  
6 excuse you and you go back to the jury assembly room. It is  
7 possible at this point in the day, unlikely, you will be  
8 required for your service.

9 For all of you in the back who have been sitting  
10 there patiently all day and who I haven't called, I'm sorry I  
11 didn't excuse you earlier, but we never know until we get to  
12 this point whether we are going to need you or not. Thank you  
13 all for your service. I am going to ask you to go down to the  
14 second floor assembly room as well. Not yet. Wait until I  
15 excuse others.

16 Our jurors are going to be Ms. Harriott, Mr. Romain,  
17 Ms. Honig, Mr. Bosco, Mr. Claro, Mr. Hammer, Ms. Marks, Ms.  
18 Cruz, Ms. Haque, Mr. Dunford, and Mr. Masch, and Ms. Woods.  
19 You are our main panel jurors.

20 And then our alternate jurors are Mr. Zarrella, Ms.  
21 Brown, Mr. Ng and Mr. Ramirez.

22 If I have called your name, please stay in the room.  
23 I am going to rearrange your seating, but please stay where  
24 you are for right now.

25 If you haven't heard your name, please go down to

## Jury Selection

164

1 the central jury room. Thank you for your service. We all  
2 appreciate it.

3 I will put you in the order I think you will be  
4 seated in during the trial. Ms. Harriott come to the seat  
5 closest to me in the front row and then in the same order that  
6 you are in, Mr. Romain in seat two, Ms. Honig in seat three.  
7 Mr. Bosco, in seat four, Mr. Claro in seat five. Mr. Hammer,  
8 come down to the last seat in the front row, seat six. Ms.  
9 Marks, move up to the seat in the second row. Ms. Cruz,  
10 second seat in the second row, and then Ms. Haque the third  
11 seat in the second row. Mr. Dunford, you will be in the  
12 fourth seat in the second row, and then Mr. Masch in the fifth  
13 seat, second row, Ms. Woods in the sixth seat, second row.

14 The back row, Mr. Zarrella, you will be the seat  
15 closest to me. Ms. Brown in the second seat. Mr. Ng in the  
16 third seat, and Ms. Ramirez in the fourth seat. I'll warn  
17 you, don't get too comfortable, you won't be there long for  
18 today.

19 Folks, I will keep you a moment more for some  
20 instructions for now until you come back tomorrow to start the  
21 trial. Ms. Guy and Ms. Almonte will bring you back to the  
22 jury room.

23 The trial hasn't started yet. You haven't heard any  
24 evidence, so there is nothing to discuss. Don't discuss the  
25 case with each other, with others outside the case, really. I

## Jury Selection

165

1 don't expect there to be anything to read about or listen to.  
2 If you happen to see or hear something, stop reading or  
3 listening and let somebody from the Court staff know. Don't  
4 look for any information about the case. Don't search the  
5 internet for it. Don't post on social media about it. If  
6 anybody asks you about your service, just say I'm on a jury  
7 and the judge has told me not to talk about it. I think that  
8 should probably do it. If for any reason somebody is being  
9 persistent about it, just stick to that line, I have been told  
10 not to discuss the case. But if you think somebody is being  
11 persistent, let somebody from the Court staff know, if it's  
12 me, Ms. Guy, Ms. Almonte or somebody on Judge Vitaliano's  
13 staff.

14 As before, if you happen to see anybody from the  
15 trial teams in the courthouse as you are coming in and out,  
16 they are not going to acknowledge you. They can't have any  
17 contact with jurors outside this courtroom. As I said, Ms.  
18 Guy and Ms. Almonte will have more instructions for you jury  
19 room. I want to thank you all for your service.

20 I wish you the best of luck with the trial.

21 All rise, please. The jury is excused.

22 (Jury exits the courtroom.)

23 THE COURT: All right, folks, anything before we  
24 adjourn for the day?

25 MR. SELDEN: Not on behalf of the Government.

Jury Selection

166

1 THE COURT: For the defense?

2 MR. STEIN: No, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Thank you all. The best of luck.

4 (Matter concluded.)

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MDL

RPR

CRR

CSR